FILE DESCRIPTION

BUREAU FILE

SUBJECT National Negro Congress

FILE NO. HQ 61-6728

Section # 4

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT New York City

FILE NO. 100-949

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
Washington, D. C.	9-25-41	7/30, 31; 8/1-12/41	[redacted] JFD:JC

b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS	INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

National Negro Congress incorporated at Washington, D. C. April 30, 1934 with stated object of suppressing spread of doctrines of Communism among negroes, and to foster a movement for periodic conventions of negro representatives from all over the United States to discuss problems effecting negroes and means of determining their solutions. Local council has been active with parent organization in picketing OPM and Glenn Martin Airplane Company plant, ostensibly to secure jobs for negroes in defense industries. Officials of National Negro Congress have expressed opposition to present war until attack on Russia by Germany, thereafter urging complete support of program to aid countries fighting Germany.

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REFERENCE:

Bureau teletype to all offices dated December 16, 1940; report of Special Agent [redacted] Omaha, Nebraska January 9, 1941; report of Special Agent [redacted], Chicago, Illinois dated February 1, 1941; report of Special Agent [redacted] Los Angeles, California, February 25, 1941; letters to Bureau dated April 8, 1941 and April 29, 1941.

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2 Washington Field

OCT 1 1941

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DATE 4/24/79 BY SP-1 65K/RD

DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

In addition to the information regarding the origin and activities of the National Negro Congress, as set forth in reference reports, the following information was developed as a result of investigation at Washington, D. C. and from contacts with [redacted]

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At the offices of the Recorder of Deeds for the District of Columbia, the writer examined the Certificate of Incorporation of the National Negro Congress, under Certificate #22570, located on page 427 of Book 50. This certificate reflected that the National Negro Congress was incorporated on April 30, 1934 and the terms of organization were perpetual. The address at that time was recorded as Masonic Temple, 10th and U Sts., N. W. Washington, D. C. The business and the objects of the corporation were:

1. To suppress the spread of the doctrines of Communism among negroes.

2. To investigate and present in proper form to the right and proper governmental agencies the economic, social and political needs of negroes, with a view to their enhancement.

3. To foster a movement having as its ultimate aim a periodic meeting in convention of negro representatives from all of the States, elected by negroes, so that problems effecting the negroes generally may be discussed and means of their solution determined upon.

4. To promote the welfare of all negroes.

Only the names of three directors were recorded on the certificate, namely P. PRESTON RICHARDSON, MARTHA WILSON, JOHN L. POLLY. No addresses or other means of identification were recorded regarding these individuals.

Agent was informed at the office of the Recorder of Deeds that annual reports are not required from corporations in the District of Columbia. Therefore no further information regarding this corporation was available. However, there was no record of any communication to the Recorder of Deeds reflecting the dissolution of the corporation.

According to information furnished the Washington Field Office by [redacted] the National Negro Congress had its origin in an organization known as the Joint Committee on National Recovery. This latter organization was made up of the following affiliated organizations: b7D

- African Methodist Episcopal Church
- African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church
- Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority
- Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity
- Colored Methodist Episcopal Church
- Delta Sigma Theta Sorority
- Improved Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the World
- National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
- National Association of Colleges for Colored Youth
- National Association of Colored Womens Clubs
- National Baptist Convention, U.S.A.
- National Catholic Interracial Federation
- National Council Protestant Episcopal League
- National Housewives League
- National Medical Association
- National Negro Bar Association
- National Negro Business League
- National Technical Association
- Negro Industrial League
- Omega Psi Phi Fraternity
- Public Affairs Committee, National Young Women's Christian Assn.

Race Relations Dept., Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America
Women's Auxiliary, National Baptist Convention, U.S.A.
Women's Parent Mite Missionary Society

The officers of the Joint Committee on National Recovery were GEORGE E. HAYNES, Chairman; JOHN P. DAVIS, Executive Secretary and MARIE H. BURROUGHS, Treasurer. According to [redacted] the Joint Committee on National Recovery was suggested in tentative form in June, 1933 by officers of the Negro Industrial League, a small and newly created organization, the purpose of which was to secure equal treatment of negroes in industrial codes of fair competition under the NRA. According to [redacted] the Joint Committee did not come into being formally until September 15, 1933.

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Continuing, [redacted] on May 18, 19 and 20, 1935, a national conference was held at Howard University under the auspices of the Joint Committee on National Recovery and the Social Science Division of Howard University in Washington, D. C. Among the speakers were PAUL PORTER, Labor Secretary of the Socialist Party, JAMES W. FORD, Vice Presidential Candidate for the Presidency of the Communist Party Ticket and JAMES S. ULLMAN, [redacted]

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[redacted] the remaining speakers, although they may have been members of a particular political party did not speak in behalf of any such party and none of their statements could be termed definitely Communist or Socialist. However, according to [redacted] the late Dean KELLY MILLER of Howard University attacked the gathering as having strong Communistic leanings. As a result of his attack in September, 1935, the U. S. Senate ordered an investigation into alleged Communistic activities at Howard University.

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Continuing, [redacted] that out of the conference at Howard University, there arose plans for the organization of the National Negro Congress but shortly thereafter the Joint

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Committee became inactive with the exception of JOHN P. DAVIS. In October, 1935 this individual wrote an article published in pamphlet form entitled: "Let Us Build a National Negro Congress". This pamphlet [redacted] was widely distributed over the country and urged all sympathetic organizations to get together and form sponsoring committees for the National Negro Congress to be held in Chicago, Illinois February 14, 1936. b7D

The proceedings at the Conference have been covered in reports previously referred to in this report.

[redacted]

b7D

[redacted]

[redacted] b7D

After his resignation RUTH JERCHE, who was not a Communist, according to [redacted] was elected to the leadership of the group, but she was unable to hold the group together and for a year or more thereafter the group did not function at all in the District of Columbia.

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Thereafter, THELMA DALE, MARCELLA POOLE and EDDIE FIELDS attempted to revive this youth group. [redacted] They proceeded to Atlanta, Georgia to attend the Southern Youth Conference and upon their return to Washington organized a youth group in Washington which is known today as the Southern Negro Youth Congress of the D. C., an affiliate of the National Negro Congress.

In referring to JOHN P. DAVIS, the moving force in the National Negro Congress, [redacted] states that he knew him by sight [redacted] 67D

[redacted] According to [redacted] at this time [redacted] of Richmond, Virginia, who was a student [redacted] at Howard University told [redacted] that JOHN P. DAVIS had joined the Communist Party. [redacted]

[redacted] 67C,D

[redacted] 67D, C

[redacted] 67D, C

[redacted] b7D, c

[redacted] b7D, c

In referring to the first Negro Congress in Chicago in 1936, [redacted] states that the Communists did not insist upon taking over this convention in toto because the approach of the Communist Party during that particular period of time was through the so-called United Front. He stated that JAMES FORD represented the Communist Party and made the Communist speech at the convention. He stated that FORD was recognized by delegates to the convention as the "face of the party", and they looked to FORD for guidance in activities of the National Negro Congress. b7D

In addition to the above information furnished by [redacted] he advised that he will keep the Washington Field Office informed of any further activities of the National Negro Congress or any of its affiliates. b7D

According to the "Daily Worker", official publication of the Communist Party dated March 12, 1941, GANGE L. HAMILTON, JR. who recently resigned from his position as Director of Publicity for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, has been appointed National Administrative Secretary of the National Negro Congress. He is described as a graduate of Dickinson College at Carlisle, Pa. and has been affiliated with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People since July, 19[illegible], working out of the National Office in New York.

He has done graduate work at Columbia University and taught for three years at Allan University, Columbia, S. C. Continuing the article states that MURPHY was employed for seven years by the Afro-American newspaper working at various times as manager of the paper's Washington and New York Offices. He also worked for several months on the New York Writer's project. He is married to the former LILLIE JONES of Columbia, S. C. and the article states he will make his home in Washington with his wife at their former place of residence while he was employed by the Afro-American.

In the March 17, 1941 issue of the Daily Worker, an article under the caption of "Negro Congress Fights for Jobs in Martin Aircraft Company", states that officials of the Glenn L. Martin Aircraft Company told officials of the National Negro Congress the previous week that the company had no intention of pioneering in the field of defense jobs for negroes. As a result of this, the National Negro Congress charged that the Aircraft Corporation, aided and abetted by SIDNEY HILLMAN, co-Chairman of OPM, was being guilty of conducting a "sit-down strike" against the negro people and demanded 7,000 jobs for negroes at the Glenn Martin factory.

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On April 2, 1941, [redacted] a meeting held by the National Negro Congress at Mt. Carmel Baptist Church in Washington, at which time DR. MAX YERGAN, now President of the National Negro Congress, spoke on the subject of "What the negro people must do in the present crisis". The [redacted] that the purpose of the meeting was to demand 7,000 jobs for negro workers at the Glenn Martin plant near Baltimore, Maryland. [redacted] during the meeting arrangements were made to hold a mass meeting at Baltimore, Md. April 27, 1941 and have a large group of negroes to leave Washington on that date for the purpose of attending the meeting. JOHN P. DAVIS announced that the Congress was going to keep a steady march of negroes going over to Baltimore applying for jobs and pointed out that of course they would be refused jobs but the number being refused would grow from day to day and thereby would be given prominent publicity.

According to [redacted] DAVIS further indicated that if this "pressure" did not work, consideration was being given to picketing the office of SIDNEY HILLMAN in Washington, D. C. b7D

[redacted] stated that FLORENCE FLOTNICK, Administrative Secretary of the Communist Party of the D. C. was very active at the meeting on April 2, 1941 and appeared to be taking a prominent part in the general activities of the organization. [redacted] stated that MISS BERTHA BLAIR, formerly employed in the Women's Bureau of the Department of Labor, and presently employed in the Railroad Retirement Board, was one of the principal white individuals actively engaged in the business activities of the National Negro Congress. [redacted] b7D

Under date of March 9, 1941, the Sunday edition of the Daily Worker contains a rather lengthy article dealing with one JESSE LaSMITH, Field Representative of the Brooklyn, N. Y. council of the National Negro Congress for denouncing the so-called Jim Crow policies of the Federal Government in an armed conference. SMITH attached to his draft questionnaire a statement declaring "I hereby protest any move to assign me arbitrarily to the Jim Crow regiment. As a loyal American, very willing to defend America against its enemies from within and without, I demand that my assignment as a draftee be made on the same basis as that of any other American, without regard to race, creed or color". This questionnaire was mailed to Local Draft Board 210, according to the article. The article states that the Brooklyn Council of the National Negro Congress is supporting the action taken by LaSMITH. The article contains a photograph of registrant.

By letter dated April 29, 1941 the Washington Field Office advised the Bureau that on the afternoon of the previous day a group of negroes, under the auspices of the National Negro Congress began picketing the offices of the Advisory Commission to the Council of National Defense, located in the Social Security Building, Washington, D. C. The same group also picketed the

Walker Johnson Building, 1734 New York Avenue which houses a portion of the War Department. It was observed that some of the pickets were dressed in Army uniforms and one of these individuals wore the designation of a sergeant. [redacted] who subsequently advised that he had received information from [redacted] that the matter would be handled by the Army inasmuch as it involved enlisted personnel of the Army. 67D

On May 1, 1941 the issue of the Daily Worker contains an article captioned "Hillman Reneges on Negro Job Pledge, Davis Charges". This article states in part that JOHN P. DAVIS, Secretary of the National Negro Congress on April 30th declared that Associate Director SIDNEY HILLMAN of OPM was not making good his recent promise to take steps to provide jobs for colored people in defense industries. The article states that DAVIS made this charge after a delegation of prominent negro leaders conferred with HILLMAN concerning the refusal of the Glenn L. Martin Airplane plant in Baltimore to employ negroes. The article further states that despite the fact that the delegation spoke for 250,000 negroes in the area around Washington and Maryland, HILLMAN challenged its right to speak for the negro people. In protest against the refusal of HILLMAN to take any definite steps, the article states, the delegation conducted a picket line around the OPM building and scheduled another picket line for the following Wednesday.

On May 6, 1941, the issue of the Daily Worker states that a militant drive to mobilize thousands of job-needy negro citizens for action in Maryland and the District of Columbia got under way that week when the National Negro Congress started distribution of 75,000 leaflets in its program to secure 7,000 jobs for negroes at the Glenn L. Martin Aircraft Company plant near Baltimore.

The Washington Field Office has secured a sample copy of one of the leaflets above referred to and it is being retained in the Washington Field Office file in this case.

The Daily Worker for May 27, 1941 contains an article captioned "160 Negro Leaders Condemn Drive to War and Destruction of our Peoples Rights". This article states in part that in a statement for jobs and equality for their people, 160 leading negro Americans indicted the war program as the main obstacle to the defense of negro rights and Democratic liberties for the entire people. According to the article the statement "riddled the Democratic sham of the administration's defense program by exposing the wholesale Jim-Crowism in defense industry and the Armed forces". Continuing this article states in part "The negro people want nothing of HITLER; they detest him and all his practices. On the other hand the British war makers hold Africa, India, the West Indies and other colonial areas in a cruel bondage infinitely worse than the oppression known by the negroes in America". Among the 160 signers of the statement, according to the article, there were the following from Washington, D. C.:

DR. SARA M. BROWN, member of the Board of Trustees of Howard University
THELMA DALE, President of the Washington Youth Federation
DR. W. H. JERNAGIN, National President of the Baptist Young Peoples Union
MARY CHURCH TERRELL, author
DOXEY A. WILKERSON, Professor at Howard University
EDWARD STRONG, Secretary of the Southern Negro Youth Conference
HON. J. FINLEY WILSON, Grand Exalted Ruler of the Order of Elks.

The June 15, 1941 issue of the Daily Worker carries an article captioned "Negro Congress Hits War Drive; Backs 'Job March'". This article contains a photograph of negro pickets in front of the OPM in Washington, D. C. led by Professor DOXEY A. WILKERSON of Howard University. The article states that the National Negro Congress issued a statement supporting the "March for jobs" a movement described as one to win employment for negroes in defense industries. In commenting on the march on Washington, the article states that the statement reads in part as follows:

"The National Negro Congress welcomes this new development to exercise mass pressure for the above constructive objectives".

The June 24, 1941 issue of the Washington Star contains an article captioned "Silent Negro March to Protest Defense Discrimination". The article describes this March in part as follows: - "In silence broken only by the occasional beat of drums colored citizens, representing the forty-eight states and the District will march here next Tuesday to protest discrimination against the negro race in defense jobs. Orders issued today by officials of the Negro March on Washington, D. C. located at 7th and D Sts., N. W. revealed the unusual nature of the demonstration".

The June 21, 1941 issue of the Daily Worker contains an article under the caption: "Congress Gets Proof of Negro Defense Bias". This article states that refusal of the Sperry Gyroscope Company of Brooklyn, New York to hire two highly trained negro engineers were among the cases cited recently to a Congressional Sub-Committee of the National Negro Congress and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to prove that firms with big defense orders continued to discriminate openly against negro workers. The article states that a Congressional hearing was held on the Marcantonio Anti-Discrimination Bill which would punish acts of discrimination by fines up to $50,000.

As an indication of the way the National Negro Congress follows the Communist Party line, reference is made to the article in the Daily Worker dated July 15, 1941 which was subsequent to Germany's attack on Soviet Russia, when the Communist Party changed their policy regarding the war. There is an editorial in this issue of the Daily Worker, under the caption of "The Negro Peoples Stake in the War". This editorial states that the statement of 23 negro leaders in Washington, urging full aid to the Soviet Union and Great Britain is of enormous significance. It states that the negro people can be found among the first to recognize the changed character of the European conflict since the invasion

of the Soviet Union and will see the world-wide dangers inherent in HITLER'S attack upon the stronghold of racial equality and freedom. This editorial then quotes the following portion of the statement made by the negro leaders: "It is therefore of vital concern to the negro people that HITLER be destroyed and that they should give complete support to the President's announced program of Aid to Britain, the Soviet Union and all other countries fighting HITLER'S aggression".

As of interest to show the interest of the Communist Party in the National Negro Congress, the following is quoted from page 35 of "The Peoples Front" written by EARL BROWDER, General Secretary of the Communist Party, U.S.A. and published by the International Publishers in 1938, - "Significant progress has been made in building a united front of struggle for negroes' liberation. The National Negro Congress, which met in Chicago in February (1936) and established a permanent organization found the correct road - - - the negro people have learned to expect and demand of the Communists the greatest sensitivity of their problems".

Regarding the Washington Council of the National Negro Congress, the official publication of this affiliate of the National Negro Congress is a bound mimeographed leaflet entitled "Washington Council Digest" which is described as "The organ of the Washington Council of the National Negro Congress." The editor is ROBERT McDONALD and the Assistant Editor THELMA DALE. It appears to be a monthly publication. The June, 1941 issue of this publication was turned over to the Washington Field Office by [redacted] and appears typical of the usual issue of this publication. In one article under the caption of "Dies Committee Slanders Negro People", a Congressman is taken to task because of the statement of one of his investigators in testifying before the committee to the effect that the Glenn L. Martin job campaign sponsored by the National Negro Congress had as its purpose the infiltration of negro communist workers in the plant to sabotage production rather than to secure jobs for negroes. This issue also calls attention to the picketing of

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the building occupied by the CPI and announced the picketing takes place from 3:45 to 5 p.m. every Thursday.

Mention is made in this publication of the so-called "Perpetual Peace Vigil" in front of the White House under the auspices of the American Peace Mobilization and solicits help for the American Peace Mobilization in "keeping the torch of peace burning in front of the White House". It will be noted that this issue of the publication is dated prior to the change in policy regarding the war by the National Negro Congress.

In another article in the above referred to publication comment is made on those "who fear militant methods of protest" and the statement is made "We are antagonized!! Negroes cannot afford to starve while 'nice people' go about spreading good will. We need jobs!! Jobs are worth fighting for!! We'll fight!! "

A copy of the above-described publication is being transmitted to the Bureau with their copies of this report.

Other publications of the Washington Council of the National Negro Congress loaned to the Washington Field Office by [redacted] certain articles on so-called "Police Brutality", discrimination against negroes in government jobs and civil rights for negroes. These publications reflect that meetings of the local council are held weekly on Tuesday evenings at 8 p.m. at the YMCA located at 1816 12th St., N. W. in Washington, D. C. b7D

The headquarters of the local council of the National Negro Congress are at 717 Florida Avenue, N. W., telephone Michigan 2000 and it will be observed that these are the same headquarters as those used by the parent organization.

Among the documents loaned to the Washington Field Office by [redacted] is a printed letter dated [illegible], 1941 on the letterhead of the Washington Council of the National Negro Congress over the signatures of LAMMA [illegible] b7D

and M. ... HUNTON, addressed "Dear Friend" inviting all who are interested in assisting to build the local organization, to attend an informal get-together at the home of Professor DOXEY A. WILKERSON, at 1830 16th Street, N. W., apartment 32 on May 13, 1941. b7D

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent [redacted] at Chicago, Illinois dated February 2, 1941 wherein reference is made to the report of official proceedings of both the first and second National Negro Congresses held in Chicago, Illinois and Philadelphia, Pa. respectively. [redacted] copy of each of these official proceedings from [redacted] and these copies are being transmitted to the Bureau with copies of this report. b7D

The Washington Field Office is maintaining contact with [redacted] and will report from time to time any information of interest furnished by him regarding the activities of either the local council or the National Negro Congress. b7D

ENCLOSURES: TO BUREAU:

June, 1941 issue of Washington Council Digest
Photographic copy of official proceedings of National Negro Congress at Chicago, dated February 14, 15 and 16, 1941.
Photographic copy of official proceedings of Second National Negro Congress held at Philadelphia, Pa. October 15, 16 and 17, 1941.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

DETROIT FILE NO. 100-3010

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	10/6/41	6/5/41	[redacted] b7c EJR

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS	INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

[redacted] made available members of the governing board of the National Negro Congress, Detroit Council.

- P -

DETAILS:

At Detroit, Michigan:

On June 5, 1941, while the writer was conducting an interview at the local office of the [redacted] a file was furnished by [redacted] b7D

This file contained a letter [redacted]

This letter was written on the National Negro Congress, Detroit Council stationery, and the letterhead contained the following information: Address of the Detroit Council as 585 Gratiot Avenue, Telephone Clifford 3476, C. LeBRON SIMMONS as President, and QUILL PETWAY as Executive Secretary. The Executive Board consisted of the following:

HODGES MASON, Vice President
JEANETTA WELCH, Secretary
JOHN CONYERS, Treasurer
NATHANIEL SMITH, President, Youth Division
SAMUEL FANROY, Chairman, Trade Union Section

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED: John H. Burger, SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES			RECORDED
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(Detroit file 100-3010)

Reverend CHARLES HILL
LUKE FENNELL
ROBERT EVANS
ARTHUR PERRY
WALTER CAREY

It has been determined by the writer as of July, 1941, that CHRISTOPHER ALLSTON is the Executive Secretary, and COLEMAN YOUNG is the Secretary.

It has also been determined by the writer that the National Negro Congress has been working with the Detroit Youth Assembly on the problem of Negro discrimination in Detroit, and it is known that C. LeBRON SIMMONS has been to numerous meetings in the office of the Detroit Youth Assembly.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

29394

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK CITY, N. Y. FILE NO. 100-949

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
WASHINGTON, D. C.	10/8/41	9/14-15/41	b7c [redacted] MJC:MPC

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS	INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Citizens' Committee Against Police Brutality, a committee set up by the National Negro Congress, held a parade, Washington, D. C., September 14, 1941. DOXEY WILKERSON, Negro, alleged notorious Communist, and DOROTHY STRANGE, Negress, very active in the alleged Fronts in Washington, D. C., were the main influences behind the demonstration. License numbers and the identity of individuals participating in the parade are hereinafter set out.

- P -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] b7c dated September 9, 1941, at Washington, D. C.

DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

A parade by the Citizens' Committee Against Police Brutality, which is a committee set up by the National Negro Congress, was held in Washington, D. C. on September 14, 1941, as announced at a meeting on the previous Sunday at the Metropolitan Baptist Church at which place a police brutality meeting was held by the same organization.

The writer called the National Negro Congress and inquired of the secretary who identified herself as DOROTHY

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 1/28/76 BY [illegible]

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VED AND ...ORDED: S. T. McKee SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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STRANGE, and requested information so that the activities of the parade could be determined. She related that they expected one thousand individuals, however, they had hoped for ten thousand to march in the parade. She then gave the writer the various meeting places where the parade started from and it was therefore determined advisable that the appropriate investigation be conducted to determine what individuals were engaged in conducting the parade.

The following investigation was made by Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] at 7th and L Streets, N. E., one of the starting points of the parade: b7C

At this point the parade was made up of cars most of whom were driven by colored with a few white included. Special Agent [redacted] made observation of the cars lined up in parade form and secured the following numbers: The identity of the individuals to whom the cars were listed was determined from the auto listing directory. b7C

D. C. - 1941	139-370	CLARENCE C. JOHNSON, 2212 Georgia Ave., N. W., Negro
" "	89-722	BERT B. COHEN, white, 3214 38th St., N. W.
" "	129-010	SHERLEY S. LAWTON, Negro, 2014 15th St., N. W.
" "	106-124	CHARLES S. DUKE, 936 T St., N. W.
" "	117-817	WILBURY SINGELTARY, 1370 C St., S. E.
" "	161-591	(Hearse) Johnson & Jenkins, 2053 Georgia Avenue, N. W.
" "	68-770	LOUIS and RUTH K. GREENBERG, 3110 Wisconsin Ave., N. W., white
" "	141-820	ROBERT J. CANNADY, 1127 7th St., N.E.
" "	175-149	ABE KAMINSKY, 2822 27th St., N. W.
" "	74-203	SAMSON WASHINGTON, 2210 H St., N. E.
" "	154-786	F. MORTON and LARKEDITH BROWN, 2119 2nd St., N. W.

The following cars proceeded north on 5th Street, N. W. from L Street, N. W.:

D. C. - 1941	150-810	GERTRUDE M. WALKER, 1253 9th St., N.W.

D. C. - 1941		115-150	JOSH HOWARD, 109 G St., N. W.
"	"	76-672	LEAMON W. WHITE, 1214 Lamont St., N.
"	"	140-528	BEN JAMISON, 459 G Place, N. W.
"	"	152-726	GRACE HENRY, 4913 Astor Place
"	"	16706	FRANK L. NORRIS, 1432 S St., N. W.
"	"	110-507	(truck) WALTER SMITH, 1125 19th St., N. W. This truck carried a banner, "In memoriam 63 police victims."
"	"	150-573	ROBERT LOMAX, 254 13th St., N. E.
"	"	171-423	HENRY BEITSCHER, 1505 Olive St., N. E.
"	"	121-375	LUTHER HARRIS, 525 25th Place, N. E.
"	"	166-813	BEVERLY FIELDS, 5021 E St., N. E.
"	"	144-004	CHARLES CORDOZA, 1724 U St., N. W.
"	"	105-757	JOHN STUDVENT, 348 K St., N. W.
"	"	21-843	(taxi cab) Senator cab, driven by a Negress with marcelled hair, being about 5' 4" tall, 140-145 weight.
"	"	140-618	NORA L. FIRMS, 401 P St., N. W.
"	"	47-206	WILLIAM E. CHILDRESS, 133 D St., S.E.
"	"	117-139	WILLIE M. JOHNSON, 1621 B St., N. E.
"	"	179-122	ANDREW BELTON, 1313 5th St., N. W.
"	"	154-546	RACHEL E. and GABRIEL DIGGS, 3308 Sherman Ave., N. W.
"	"	12-250	(dealer) Coastin Auto Sales, Inc., 407 Florida Ave., N. E. This car was driven by a Negro approximately 30 to 35 years old, 5' 8", 140 pounds, and he was accompanied by three other unidentified Negroes.
"	"	171-423	ALLAN J. PERKINS, 1306 Connecticut Ave., N. W.
"	"	141-116	FRIDDY BURTON, 331 13th St., N. E.
"	"	143-927	AUGUSTUS SMITH, 1315 6th St., N. E.
"	"	156-373	HENRY PARKER, 13 P St., N. E.
"	"	169-148	EUGENE P. MEAGLE, 9620 Rock Creek Church Road, N. W.
Virginia	"	379-368	Model A, 1931 Ford Sedan
Maryland	"	169-148	make unknown but was painted gray color.

b7c

Agents [redacted] and [redacted] then attended a rally held at the park located at 10th and U Sts., N. W., at which time they identified DOKEY WILKERSON as chairman of the meeting

b7c

and they also identified HUDSON WELLS in the audience. Numerous placards carrying such slogans as "police brutality can be stopped; police brutality must go; colored captain in the second precinct; fifty additional colored policemen and police brutality helps Hitler," were carried by individuals who participated in the parade and were present in the park while speeches were made.

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] at 1st and H Streets, S. W., the other starting point of the parade:

b7c

At 1st and H Streets, S. W., a group of colored people had assembled in preparation for the parade which was to proceed from that point to 10th and U Streets, N. W., at which time a rally was to be held against police brutality. This part of the parade was made up of entirely Negroes and pictures were taken of this portion of the parade as they moved along their route heading for 10th and U Streets, N. W.

At the rally pictures were obtained of CRAIG S. VINCENT, DOXEY WILKERSON, HENRY THOMAS, CASEY GUREWITZ, ALPHEUS HUNTON, JACK ZUCKER and numerous white and colored people circulating petitons and seeking contributions, selling the "Sunday Worker" and others closely associated with these individuals or who participated in the parade by carrying banners.

Agents [redacted] and [redacted] identified FLORENCE PLOTNICK as being in the audience; however, no photograph of her was obtained.

b7c

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent [redacted] and the writer on the afternoon of September 14, 1941: At this time they proceeded to the vicinity of 25th and I Streets, N. W., which point was another starting point of the northwest unit of the parade against police brutality. DOXEY WILKERSON and ALPHEUS HUNTON, both alleged notorious Communists, were endeavoring to assemble Negroes into the parade at this point; however, they met with very little success and they left that point having Negro children approximately ten to twelve years of age, carry the banners for them. Young white girls who stated that they were from Philadelphia were distributing the newspaper known as the "Labor Action," which paper is distributed by the Workers' Party of the United States. Also noted at this point

b7c

were a few Jewish girls whom the writer has seen on various occasions at other alleged Communist Front functions and they, too, were endeavoring to influence Negroes to participate in the parade.

It was ascertained [redacted] that no individuals from the locality of 25th and I Streets, N. W., were engaged in the parade and that [redacted] believed that those who did participate were from across town. 67D

The cars which occurred at this point were the following:

D. C. - 1941	106-947	WALTER SMITH, 1125 19th St., N. W.
" "	149-707	PEARL F. THOMAS, 812 New Hampshire Ave., N. W.
" "	113-163	JOSEPH B. DUNNINGTON, 30 N St., N.W.
" "	161-015	DOXEY A. WILKERSON, 1830 16th St., N.W.

At the rally held at the commencement of the parade it was noted that the chairman of the meeting was DOXEY WILKERSON, alleged notorious Negro Communist in the District of Columbia, and employed at Howard University. Those other individuals on the speakers' platform who spoke were as follows: HENRY THOMAS, Negro, connected with JACK LINK, who is notorious in Union activities in the District of Columbia; Rev. J. D. WHITE, Bibleway Church, 1128 New Jersey Ave., (this individual did not speak, but he was present on the platform); CRAIG VINCENT, secretary of the Washington Industrial Council, CIO, and engaged in the activities of alleged Fronts in the District of Columbia; FRANK DONNER, lawyer and supervisor for the Citizens' Committee Against Police Brutality; Rev. FRANK W. ALSTOCK, Ministers' Alliance, Negro who is connected with the alleged Fronts in the District of Columbia; DOROTHY STRANGE, Negress, secretary of the Citizens' Committee Against Police Brutality.

Individuals recognized by the writer as attending the police brutality meeting and who are all alleged notorious Communists in the District of Columbia are the following: 67C

CASEY GUREWITZ; SHIRLEY KISLOVE, HUDSON WELLS, FLORENCE

PLOTNICK, OSCAR WEATHERFORD, JACK ZUCKER, BERT COHEN, MARCELLA MOORE PCPE, CALVIN COUSINS (local distributor for the "Daily Worker"), MADALINE MORMAN who is a Negress being about 6' 1", 150 pounds, slightly red tint in her hair and teeth described as being of a "horse" type, who is presently very active in the National Negro Congress.

Many other individuals seen by the writer were present at this meeting, both white and colored. Photographs of these were taken the identity of which will be attempted to be made known when said photographs are returned from the Bureau.

A picture taken by the Evening Star Newspaper of the speakers present at this rally was obtained and the same is being maintained in the files of the Washington Field Office.

There is being forwarded to the Bureau a pledge distributed by the Citizens' Committee Against Police Brutality to those attending the rally held at 10th and U Streets, N. W. Also being forwarded to the Bureau is a copy of the "Labor Action" organ of the Workers' Party of the United States, distributed by an unidentified individual at the police brutality meeting held on September 14, 1941. It was deemed inadvisable to concentrate upon the contents of the speeches given; however, it was determined that they all condemned the police force of the District of Columbia, and the time not being spent to note the speeches was used in taking photographs of individuals known by the writer as being connected with alleged fronts in the District of Columbia.

<u>ENCLOSURES:</u> <u>TO BUREAU</u>

One copy of the pledge entitled, "I Therefore Pledge;" distributed by the Citizens' Committee Against Police Brutality.

One copy of the "Labor Action," organ of the Workers' Party of the United States.

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE BALTIMORE FIELD DIVISION

AT BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

Will determine the owner of the car participating in the police brutality meeting which bore 1941 Maryland license tags [redacted] and any additional information that the files of the Baltimore Field Division might have concerning that owner. b7c

THE RICHMOND FIELD DIVISION

AT RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

Will determine the owner of the car participating in the police brutality meeting which bore 1941 Virginia license tags [redacted] and any additional information that the files of the Richmond Field Division might have concerning that owner. b7c

THE WASHINGTON FIELD DIVISION

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

Will, upon the return of the photographs taken at the meeting from the Bureau, attempt to identify those individuals participating in the meeting held September 14, 1941, at Washington, D. C.

Will, if deemed advisable, cover subsequent meetings sponsored by the Citizens' Committee Against Police Brutality.

- PENDING -

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
1300 Biscayne Building
Miami, Florida

October 10, 1941

[redacted]

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

RE: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS -
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Dear Sir:

In accordance with Bureau letter of September 15, 1941, to all Special Agents in Charge, the file on subject organization in the Miami Field Division has been reviewed and the review indicates that the only action on the part of this organization was that conducted by a negro leader at Fort Lauderdale, Florida. The Sheriff's Office broke up this meeting at its inception and it was disbanded.

[redacted] contacted in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated March 5, 1941, at Miami, Florida, will be recontacted for any further information they may have as to the present activities and membership of subject organization in Miami, and appropriate investigation will be instituted at Orlando, Tampa, Jacksonville and Pensacola, Florida, to determine whether any negro organizations have been active in these areas and whether they have any connection with subject organization.

b7c,D

Very truly yours,

R. G. D[illegible]
Special Agent in Charge

CH-13

HLA:rc
100-662

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
4 OCT 14 1941
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 4/24/79 BY SP-1 GSK/RH

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT WASHINGTON, D. C. FILE NO. 100-2463

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
WASHINGTON, D. C.	10/11/41	9/10/41	[redacted] b7c MJC:AMB

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
NORTHWEST TENANTS LEAGUE	INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Northwest Tenants League, branch of the National Negro Congress, held a meeting May 1, 1941. A. LANGSTON TAYLOR, [redacted] Washington, D. C., presided over the meeting, at which time CHARLES S. DUNN, colored, of the Housing Committee, C.I.C., from Chicago; LOUIS WILLIAMS, colored, President of the Street Pavers Union, C.I.C.; SEYMOUR POWARD, member of the Coordination Housing Committee, spoke at the meeting. Further investigation concerning Northwest Tenants League will be reported under the title THE NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS, and this case will be considered closed.

- C -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 4/24/79 BY SP-1 GSK/RH

DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

ICC 4/2/47 CC 4/2/47

The following investigation is predicated upon information furnished to this office by [redacted] who furnished a report on the Northwest Tenants League which held a meeting at the John Wesley A.M.E., Zion Church, 14th and Corcoran Sts., N. W., on May 1, 1941.

6TD

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: S. A. McKee SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

61

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OCT 13 1941

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FIVE

It may be stated that A. LANGSTON TAYLOR is known to the writer [redacted] in the District of Columbia and the report submitted by the [redacted] mentioned above, is hereinafter set out:

57D

"By 8:45 P.M., May 1, 1941, a handful of colored people and one white man were gathered in the spacious auditorium of the Zion Church at 14th and Corcoran Streets, N. W. Mr. A. LANGSTON TAYLOR, a member of the National Negro Congress, called the meeting to order and delivered a short opening address. He explained the poor attendance as the result of too frequent changing of meeting place and interference by other organization meetings. Nevertheless, he launched into a rambling plea for quick organization and growth of membership. The National Negro Congress has been so busy with other movements that it has neglected this recent branch, the Northwest Tenant's League, now six weeks old. One of the recent activities of the National Negro Congress, he explained, was the picketing of the O.P.M. headquarters on April 30, 1941. He thought that perhaps this activity had caused a lessening of interest in the meeting of the Northwest Tenant's League.

He gave the purpose of the meeting as twofold; first, to launch a drive for membership, and second, to institute a plan of action designed to alleviate the conditions resulting from the housing conditions here in the District of Columbia. Briefly he outlined the disease, the misery, and uncleanliness of the present housing among the negroes. It is his contention that more negroes die from tuberculosis in this city than any other city in the United States. The area most affected he roughly outlined as that from New York Avenue to Florida Avenue and from New Jersey Avenue to 15th Street, N. W.

He deplored the present sanitary conditions among his race, stating that they were the result of unfettered landlords trying to squeeze all they could from tenants and the lack of organization among the colored populace. The Alley Dwelling Authority had done a good job, but it just hasn't able to cope with a job of this proportion.

Mr. CHARLES S. DOWE, colored, of the Housing Committee, C. I. O., from Chicago, the next speaker, stressed the need for organization, stating that this city is lagging far behind in contriving means of meeting the housing problem. New York and Philadelphia have numerous organizations designed to alleviate unwholesome conditions that have had an amazing success. They now dictate their own terms to the landlords. As a result, tenants live better and landlord profiteering has declined.

He also urged support of a bill now in Congress which is intended to limit the dictatorship of the present landlord system.

LOUIS WILLIAMS, colored, president of the Street Pavers Union, C. I. O., gave a brief sketch of some of the conditions as he had found them in his investigation of the housing problems here in the District of Columbia. An instance was 1230 9th St., N. W., a nine room house which formerly rented for $45 per month, but which now houses 48 persons and realizes an income for the landlord of $280 per month. Conditions are those associated with those destitute who abound here in the District of Columbia. The landlord was evidently a low type of fellow who would gamble with the tenants and lose so much that frequently the heat, electricity and water were shut off. On April 26, 1941 all those at this address were evicted by the U. S. Marshal's office as a climax to mismanagement and misconduct on the part of the landlord. The property is owned by Thomas J. Walsh.

Another instance cited was 1022 8th St., N. W. This house formerly rented for $50 per month, but when Mr. NICK, the landlord who makes a practice of buying old houses and making one room apartments from the original design, had finished rearranging it, the income was $61 per week. He doesn't like children about the premises and on one occasion removed the furniture from the room where a young mother and child were residing. When Mr. WILLIAMS visited the apartment the baby was lying on the floor on the father's overcoat.

The solution for such inhuman conditions, according to Mr. WILLIAMS lies in the organization of the tenants into a group so strong that they can compel attention and action.

Mr. SEYMOUR HOWARD, the only white person present, and a member of the Coordination Housing Committee, raised his slender "six foot" frame to its fullest height and in a voice and manner of speaking befitting a Casper Milktoast, and with the bland expression of Hap Hopper, both of comic strip fame, began repeating what the previous speakers had already voiced.

If his speech was intended to summarize those made before, the summary received a poor rendition.

A Reverend CDIK, member of the housing investigation committee, was not present, but it was explained that anyone who wished to make a complaint to him could reach him at the 12th Street Branch of the Y.M.C.A., where other meetings of the Northwest Tenant's League have been held in the past.

Mr. TAYLOR closed the meeting by announcing that the next meeting of the Northwest Tenant's League would take place Wednesday, May 7th, 8:00 P.M. at the Garnet Patterson School, 10th and U Sts., N. W.

Attached is a leaflet passed to the audience at the meeting. "

Due to the fact that the above report reflected that Mr. LAWRENCE TAYLOR stated that the Northwest Tenant's League is a branch of the National Negro Congress, further investigation regarding this organization will be reported in the file entitled NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS, Washington Field Office file 100-949, and the file on the Northwest Tenant's League will be considered closed.

- CLOSED -

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

This Case Originated At KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE File No. 100-104

Report Made at	Date When Made	Period For Which Made	Report Made By
KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE	OCT 21 1941	10-6,8,9-41	b7c [redacted] MLG

Title	Character of Case
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS	INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS: Review of files and investigation reveals no known activities of NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS in the Knoxville Field Division.

- C -

REFERENCE: Bureau teletype dated 12-17-40, concerning United Front organizations.

b7c

DETAILS: The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent [redacted] and is reported in a memorandum in the Knoxville file on United Front Organizations:

The following persons were contacted regarding any information they might have concerning activities of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS in the Knoxville Field Division, with negative results:

[redacted] Bristol, Tennessee. b7D

[redacted] Kingsport, Tennessee

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OCT 21 1941

[redacted] Johnson City, Tennessee.

[redacted] Johnson City, Tennessee.

[redacted] Carter County, Elizabethton, Tennessee. b7D

[redacted] Washington County, Johnson City, Tennessee.

[redacted] Knoxville, Tennessee [redacted] b7C,D

[redacted] Knoxville, Tennessee.

[redacted] Knoxville, Tennessee b7C,D

[redacted] Knoxville, Tennessee.

[redacted] Knoxville, Tennessee.

[redacted] (Whose identity is known to the Bureau). b7D

City directories at Johnson City, Bristol, Kingsport, and Knoxville, were searched without results for the name **NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS.**

The following investigation was conducted by the writer:

AT CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE:

The following persons were interviewed concerning possible activities of the **NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS** with negative results. Each person interviewed was of the opinion that the organization was not active in Chattanooga or vicinity.

[redacted] b7C,D

[redacted] Chattanooga, Tennessee.

[redacted] Chattanooga, Tennessee.

[redacted]

[redacted] Chattanooga Times.

[redacted] Chattanooga, Tennessee. b7c

[redacted] Chattanooga, Tennessee.

[redacted]

[redacted] Chattanooga, Tennessee.

[redacted] b7c,D

[redacted] b7c

[redacted] Chattanooga, Tennessee.

No record of the subject organization could be found in the "Index to Charters" in the office of the Registrar of Hamilton County, Tennessee.

b7c

[redacted] Chattanooga, Tennessee, caused his records to be checked for the **NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS** with negative results.

[redacted] and [redacted] listed above, agreed to inform the Knoxville Field Division in case they heard of any activity on the part of the subject organization. b7c,D

Inasmuch as the **NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS** does not appear to have been active in the Knoxville Field Division, this case is being closed.

- C L O S E D -

MAY 22 1942

Report Form
FD-263 (5-12-55)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reporting Office	Office of Origin	Date	Investigative Period
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN	NEW YORK, N.Y.	10/18/41	4/3-5; 7/18; 8/14,22; 10/2/41

Title of Case	Report made by	Typed By:
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS	[redacted] b7c	by

CHARACTER OF CASE

INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Synopsis:

On 7/2/41 [redacted] stated that there is no NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS in the Milwaukee Area. According to [redacted], there is a Communist organization in Milwaukee, but it is not called the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS. According to [redacted] there is no NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS in the State of Wisconsin, but the Communist Party has a Negro Branch established in Milwaukee. [redacted] b7D b7D b7c 0/S b7D

ENCLOSURE

Approved	Special Agent in Charge	Do not write in spaces below			
Copies made:		61-	6728-	177	
5 - Bureau 1 - Boston (Information) 2 - Cleveland (Information) 2 - New York 3 - Milwaukee (100-894)		CORRECTED FIRST PAGE			
JUL 19 1956		11 JUL 13 1956			

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100-894

29396

REFERENCE: Bureau teletype dated 12/17/40.

DETAILS: At MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

b7c

In the report written by Special Agent [redacted] d/s dated 7/2/41 at Milwaukee, in the case entitled [redacted] it is noted that [redacted] of the WISCONSIN CONFERENCE ON SOCIAL LEGISLATION, stated that there is no NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS in the Milwaukee Area. b7D

On 4/3/41, [redacted] who resides at [redacted] Milwaukee, stated that there is a Communist element among the negroes in Milwaukee, and that this organization came in through the organization called the NATIONAL ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE, and it is not known as the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS. [redacted] stated that this organization has made very little headway in the colored district, and that their meeting place is [redacted] Milwaukee, which is the residence of [redacted] b7D b7D

b7c

[redacted]

b7D, C

[redacted]

b7C, D

[redacted]

b7C, D

[redacted] b7C

[redacted] b7D, C

[redacted] b7C, D

According to [redacted] b7D
[redacted], who has been heretofore identified to the Bureau, there is not a NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS in the State of Wisconsin, [redacted]

[redacted] b/5

[redacted] b/5

(2-7-79)

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[redacted]

the booklets called [redacted] Jim Crow." The following points were taken up in these two books respectively:

b7D

"NEGRO LIBERATION by JAMES A. ALLEN.

Published by International Publishers, 381 Fourth Ave., N.Y.

"According to this pamphlet, six points are emphasized as follows:

1 - Unlike other oppressed peoples today, the American Negroes were the chattel slaves of the oppressing nation. This historical factor thens the persistency of the 'white superiority' idea and heightens t atmosphere of social ostracism.

2.- The Black Belt is situated within the territory of the United States as a whole and the masses of the oppressing nation live in close proximity to the oppressed negroes. The ruling classes, therefore adopted specially severe methods to separate the white toiling masses from the Negroes in order to prevent a fighting alliance. Th: together with the first factor, explains the special sharpness of all methods of oppression - Jim Crow, segregation, lynching, etc.

3 - Industrialization has affected the Black Belt (directly and indirectly) more than it has affected most colonial countries, creatin a proportionately large Negro proletariat, which together with the w proletariat, is in a favorable position to influence and lead the Ne people as a whole.

4 - The monopoly capitalist, through the credit system and their tru have complete control of agriculture and industry in the Black Belt and retard the development of a Negro bourgeoisie, much more complet and more easily than in colonial countries.

5 - As a result, the Negro bourgeoisie has no major industries of it own and but few large landowners. Its upper section can exist only a parasitic capacity within the negro community.

"6 - The mass migrations of negroes from the south during and after the world war have resulted in the formation of a large negro minority in the north, which is treated as an oppressed national minority. A powerful section of the negro working class is located in the north. This resultson the one hand, in widening the base of the Negro middle class; on the other hand, because of close association with the more developed northern working class and the growth of class solidarity, it results in strengthening the decisive revolutionary class in the struggle for Negro liberation. - The struggle against the southern reactionaries within the Democratic Party involves, among other things, the fight for a federal anti-lynching bill; the task of winning full democratic rights for negroes is essentially part and parcel of the fight against reactions....There exists the closest connection between the struggels and demands of the Negro people and the struggles and demands of the labor and progressive movements. This vital connection serves to overcome separatism. It creates a favorable basis for the closest unity between the negro people and the working class and its allies.

"According to JAMES S. ALLEN the white and negro workers must struggle together for the right to hold meetings, to organize and strike, against the restrictions placed on voting, for the right to run their own candidates in elections, etc. Communism strives to bring the peoples of the world closer together, to unite them into larger and larger states. The Communist Party of the United States strives to unite the negro toilers and the white masses of the country, but this objective cannot be reached until the negroes have the freedom — which they do not have now — to enter of their own free will and without coercion into such a union. They must first have the right to choose before we can say that they have chosen freely.

"JAMES S. ALLEN states that through the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS many labor and middle-class organizations are beginning to cooperate in a movement for Negro rights and in an effort to establish close working bonds with the labor and progressive movements of the country. This turn of events has been largely encouraged by the advances in the labor movement, particularly in the organization of the C.I.O. of millions of workers in the basic industries, many of whom are negroes.

"Reference from pamphlet entitled, "OLD JIM CROW HAS GOT TO GO", written by HENRY WINSTON. Published by NEW AGE PUBLISHERS, P. O. Box 728, Station D, New York City, March, 1941.

67D

"According to [redacted] this pamphlet is distributed by the Communist Party among the negro population. Under the subtitle of 'Hitlerite Race Policy', it is stated that the discrimminations against the negro workers is a fixed policy of the trustees and corporations. The Executive Secretary of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS in Los Angeles, ROBERT S. ROBINSON, protested the discrimination policy, which is being used by GERARD TUTTLE, Industrial Relations Manager of VULTEE AIR CRAFT.

"It is stated that joint action by locals of the C.I.O. and the A.F. of L., and the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS succeeded in forcing the management of Douglas Aircraft to reverse this policy of discrimination and hire negro workers. The CIO and A. F. of L. locals are also resolved to break down these discriminatory barriers in Vultee.

"It is stated that the reluctance to hire negro workers is due to the propaganda of the employers and the work of the agents of the employers in the labor movement. This is especially true of the top leadership of the A. F. of L. as symbolized by GREEN, WOLL, HUTCHESON, etc., who pursue a Jim Crow policy in a number of unions. It is stated that: 'The real attitude of labor is best expressed by the militant unions of the C.I.O. and the progressive locals of the A. F. of L., which have organized throusands of Negro Workers on the basis of complete equality. It is stated that the Negro youth are beginning to understand that the fight for jobs, equality of job opportunity, can be achieved only by fighting with the White Workers for higher standards both against management and the Administration, and that this can be accomplished from the the great labor movement as expressed by the militant unions of the C.I.O. They stated that the ruling circles of this country, who pursue a policy of national oppression of the negro people, fear the prospect of intermingling 'Colored and white personnel in the same regimental organization.' This fear is based not on the premises that it may be "destructive to morale" or "detrimental to preparations for national defense." What they fear is that such intermingling may spill the beans and expose the real intent of this headlong drive toward full participation in the present war. They fear a fusion of the common problems, a

"recount of common experience in civilian life, a growing collaboration and understanding between Negro and White. They well know that the possibility of such intimate contact may well result in recognition of their common destiny, directed not alone against the present war, but against imperialist oppression in general. HENRY WINSTON states that the only difference between President Roosevelt and the Ku Klux Klan is that Roosevelt speaks in the name of 'National Defense' while the Ku Klux Klan spoke of defending 'White civiliation, democracy, freedom, culture and the world order.' They stated that the U. S. Navy, which is responsible to the commander-in-chief of all armed forces, rigidly forces, rigidly adheres to the discrimination against the Negro population.

"It is stated that the Negroes of American must unite their efforts through the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS with the YOUNG COMMUNIST LEAGUE; That the Y.C.L. is guided by an advanced science of Marxism, and that the leaders of this science is put forth by the Communist Party of the U.S.A., headed by EARL BROWDER, WILLIAM Z. FOSTER, ROBERT MINOR, FREDERICK DOUGLASS, and JAMES W. FORD."

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

0/5

[redacted]

0/5

[redacted]

0/5

[redacted]

According to the "Milwaukee Journal" dated 5/2/40, the Milwaukee County Industrial Union CIO, Wednesday night, 5/1/40, appointed a committee to help in setting up a branch of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS in Milwaukee to maintain the rights of the negros. The action followed a report of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS at Washington, D. C., by LEROY JOHNSON, Council delegate.

(2-7-79)

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XXXXXX

[redacted]

0/S

[redacted]

b7D

[redacted] stated that during the month of July, a man by the name of GRAVES (negro), first name unknown, from Boston, Massachusetts, came to Milwaukee and made an attempt to set up a NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS. [redacted] but that he was unable to make any headway [redacted] es GRAVES had the intention of taking things over, which [redacted] did not approve of. On the first of August, GRAVES went back to Boston, Mass. b7C,D

[redacted]

0/S

[redacted]

-PENDING-

(2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

_____ Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☐ Deleted under exemption(s) _____ with no segregable material available for release to you.

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☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____ _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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61-6728-p177 p21

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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XXXXXX

MAY 22 1942

61-6728-178

Federal Bureau of Investigation
U. S. Department of Justice

1200 Tower Petroleum Bldg.
Dallas, Texas

October 1, 1941

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: NEGRO ACHIEVEMENT ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
NEGRO CONGRESS OF AMERICA
NEGRO YOUTH CONGRESS
NEGRO RACE CONGRESS
NEGRO EMPLOYEES ASSN. OF FORT WORTH, TEXAS
COLORED SERVICE WORKERS LEAGUE
NEGROES AGAINST WAR COMMITTEE
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

b7D

Dear Sir:

There is enclosed for the Bureau a negative photograph of [redacted] It is suggested that prints be made of this negative, and that two copies be furnished each field office in order that [redacted] may be identified in the event he approaches some office as an informant.

b7C,D

For the information of offices which have not received copies of reports in this case, [redacted] furnished alleged information to this Bureau through [redacted], concerning the captioned case. As a result of this information, extensive investigation was conducted by this and other field offices. During August, 1941, it was ascertained that the information furnished [redacted] was fictitious, and the captioned case was closed.

[redacted]

b7C,D

[redacted]

Letter sent
CCM

I ENCLOSURE

ENCLOSURE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
4 OCT 6 1941
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
MEM. SECTION
FIVE

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0 (2-7-79)

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☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

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☑ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
61-6728-179 p 2

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61-6?2?-1??

October 22, 1941

ORDER

SAC	ALBANY	DETROIT	MEMPHIS	RICHMOND
	ATLANTA	EL PASO	MIAMI	ST. LOUIS
	BALTIMORE	GRAND RAPIDS	MILWAUKEE	ST. PAUL
	BIRMINGHAM	HONOLULU	NEWARK	SALT LAKE CITY
	BOSTON	HOUSTON	NEW HAVEN	SAN ANTONIO
	BUFFALO	HUNTINGTON	NEW ORLEANS	SAN DIEGO
	BUTTE	INDIANAPOLIS	NEW YORK	SAN FRANCISCO
	CHARLOTTE	JACKSON	OKLAHOMA CITY	SAN JUAN
	CHICAGO	JUNEAU	OMAHA	SAVANNAH
	CINCINNATI	KANSAS CITY	PHILADELPHIA	SEATTLE
	CLEVELAND	KNOXVILLE	PHOENIX	SIOUX FALLS
	DALLAS	LITTLE ROCK	PITTSBURGH	SPRINGFIELD
	DENVER	LOS ANGELES	PORTLAND	WASHINGTON, D. C.
	DES MOINES	LOUISVILLE	PROVIDENCE	QUANTICO

Re: NEGRO ACHIEVEMENT ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA; NEGRO CONGRESS OF AMERICA; NEGRO YOUTH CONGRESS; NEGRO RACE CONGRESS; NEGRO EMPLOYEES ASSN. OF FORT WORTH, TEXAS; COLORED SERVICE WORKERS LEAGUE; NEGROES AGAINST WAR COMMITTEE; NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

Information has been received in the above-entitled matters to the effect that an extensive investigation was conducted by the Dallas and other Field Offices as a result of information made available by [redacted] which has been determined to be definitely of a fictitious nature.

I am transmitting herewith two copies of this individual's photograph for identification purposes in the event he approaches your Office as an informant in any of the above-entitled cases.

Very truly yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure

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JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

October 16, 1941

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Foxworth
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Boone
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Drayton
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Herbo
Tele. Room
Tour Room
Mr. Nease
Mr. Tracy
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

KRM:CJ

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. KRAMER

RE: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS

For your information I am transmitting herewith a memorandum dated September 30, 1941, containing information taken from various issues of "The Communist" magazine concerning the above organization.

Respectfully,

R. R. McIntire.

Attachment

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
6 OCT 24 1941
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

September 30, 1941

NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS

The following is a quotation taken from an article styled "The Party of Lenin and the People's Front," by Earl Browder, appearing in "The Communist" for February, 1936, page 125:

"Already we can see the line of the Seventh World Congress taking shape among the masses in this country. Lenin's teachings live and grow in the mass movement for united action against fascism and war, for the protection of the interests of the people. We see it in the growing movement for a Farmer-Labor Party. We see it in the great movement for industrial unionism, headed now by the Committee for Industrial Organization, for the organization of the basic industries, and for a more powerful and militant trade-union movement. We saw it in the past weeks in the great Congress Against War and Fascism in Cleveland, where representatives of over 3,000,000 people, including those of over 600,000 trade unionists, gathered around a fighting program. We see it in the movement for the protection and liberation of the Negro people, such as the move for the coming National Negro Congress and the broad united front defense of Angelo Herndon and the Scottsboro Boys. We see it in the Leftward strivings of the members and followers of the Socialist Party, which move, even if slowly, toward a united front with the Communists, as part of an ever-broader united front. We see it in the amalgamation of the student organizations into the new and significant American Student Union. We see it in the great American Youth Congress, which is sweeping into its orbit the youth masses of all progressive tendencies throughout the whole country. * * * * These, and a hundred other evidences, show that the policy of Lenin, expressed in the Seventh World Congress, arises out of the deepest needs of the masses of the United States and the whole world."

RECORDED 11-1-1
FEDERAL INTELLIGENCE DIVISION
6 OCT 24 1941
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

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The following quotation is taken from an article styled "Build the National Negro Congress Movement," by James W. Ford, contained in "The Communist" for June, 1936, pages 554, 555 and 560 and 561:

"It must be made clear, however, that we Communists, together with all sincere and militant forces, must take the lead in developing the struggle against all capitalist attacks on the Negro people.

"Where is the basic work of Communists at the present moment? Our most important task is to lead the masses in struggle for their immediate needs, economic, political, and social. In the course of these struggles we are to bring forward the program of the Party on the Negro question, preparing for the struggle to eliminate national oppression and for complete equality, the destruction of the plantation system in the South, the right of self-determination in the Black Belt. We must revive the best traditions of the Negro people and honor their highest aspirations, their national feelings, and desire for cultural expression.

"But to be able to do this effectively it is necessary to give the greatest attention to immediate needs. Such struggles as we state above can be carried on only by developing the broadest united front around immediate needs; equal rights, etc. This has always been our objective.

"The National Council of the National Negro Congress is broadly representative of organizations and political opinion. The Council consists of 75 members, of whom less than 10 are Communists.

"We Communists must organize all our forces to render great assistance to the National Negro Congress in carrying out its program. We should organize all our fractions and guide them in their work in the various organizations in which there may be Party members. If we develop systematic work on the basis of our concentration policies in the various Negro communities and carry on a fight against sectarian methods of work, we shall be able very soon to fulfil the task of developing a broad people's front among the Negro people in the United States against fascism and war and for the liberation of the Negro people."

The following is taken from an article entitled "Problems of Party Growth in the New York District," by Max Steinberg, appearing in "The Communist" for July, 1936, page 647:

> "In the field of our general Negro work, we must note the splendid achievements in developing the united front of the Negro and white people around the National Negro Congress, ..."

Quoted below is a portion of an article entitled "Uniting the Negro People in the People's Front," by James W. Ford and appearing in "The Communist" for August, 1937, pages 726, 727 and 734:

> "We aim to unite the Negro people in struggle for their full and equal rights, for manhood status, for the fullest cultural advancement--to unite the Negro people as a part of the People's Front for democracy and peace.
>
> "The Communists are very much concerned with building the National Negro Congress.
>
> "In order to build the Party among the Negro people and to extend the united Negro People's Front, it is necessary to renew our struggle for the immediate and elementary needs of the Negro people already outlined in the beginning. Our Party must stand out in the independent fights of the Negro people."

The following quotation is taken from an article entitled "Unite the Negro People for the People's Front," appearing in "The Communist" for November, 1937, page 1038:

> ".....the Communist Party must render assistance to, and take an active and leading part in building, the United Negro People's Front. We should aim (1) to unite the Negro people for full and equal rights, for manhood status, and for cultural advancement, and (2) to unite the Negro People's Front, as expressed in the National Negro Congress and by the fight that is constantly carried on by various organizations of the Negro people, as a part of the People's Front in the United States against reaction and war, for democracy and peace.

"Both locally and nationally, the warmest relations are to be established between the membership and leaders of the Communist Party and the membership and leaders of the progressive organizations of the Negro people. The interest of carrying out our policy and of broadening the National Negro Congress movement requires systematic, sustained and fraternal collaboration with outstanding Negro organizations, particularly the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the National Urban League, the National Colored Women's Federation, and similar organizations."

There is quoted below a portion of an article entitled "Rally the Negro Masses for the Democratic Front!" by James W. Ford, contained on pages 267 and 268 of "The Communist" for March, 1938:

"....the role of the National Negro Congress becomes of utmost importance for us. The Congress does not receive sufficient support from us. It is still weak organizationally. It needs to be built. And it is up to the Communists to do their share in helping to build it.

"Our Communists must become the most active and enthusiastic workers in the National Negro Congress. We have recruited 3,000 Negro members into the Party during the Party Building Campaign. We must see that the best of these comrades are utilized for work in the National Negro Congress."

The following quotation is taken from an article entitled "Draft Convention Resolutions," contained in "The Communist" for April, 1938, page 357:

"The role of the Party as the vanguard and organizer of the masses, working systematically for winning a leading position, must be effectively strengthened. In this connection, far more attention shall be devoted by the Central Committee and district committees to improving the political quality of the daily work and organizational activities of Party members in the trade unions (A. F. of L. as well as C.I.O.), in the American League for Peace and Democracy, the Workers' Alliance, American Youth Congress, National Negro Congress, in the farm, cultural, religious, professional and other organizations, and in the mass organizations

"of the national groups. In order to contribute more effectively to the building and consolidation of these organizations and movements, and to win the complete trust and confidence of the progressive leaders and all members of these organizations, the Party members in these organizations must more consistently assume their share of all the responsibilities involved in building and promoting these organizations."

There is submitted below a portion of an article entitled "Problems of Building the Democratic Front," by Robert F. Hall, District Organizer, District 17, appearing in "The Communist" for July, 1938, page 658:

"...our Party should recognize the increased possibilities of support among Negro youth for a democratic front. The Southern Negro Youth Congress has become the movement which best represents the democratic aspirations of the Negro young people of the South. Its recent conference, representing 385,000 Southern Negro youth, raises the issue that is of most vital concern to the Negro people—the question of the right to vote. The building of the Southern Negro Youth Congress would strengthen tremendously all of the forces of the democratic front among the Negro people of the South and help to defeat the Southern Tories."

The following quotation is taken from an article entitled "New Methods of Political Mass Organization," by William Z. Foster, appearing in "The Communist" for February, 1939, page 143:

"The essential points of the program for such a movement—a democratic front legislative movement for recovery, security, democracy and peace--are, as we have emphasized previously, already set forth in one form or another in the progressive features of the policies of President Roosevelt, in the legislative programs of the state Democratic Party Platforms in Washington, California and Michigan; in the legislative program of the C.I.O., many State Federations of Labor, L.N.P.L. and the Workers Alliance; in the programs

"of the Minnesota Farmer-Labor Party, the Washington Commonwealth Federation, the American Youth Congress, the National Negro Congress and the Southern Human Welfare Conference in a number of peace organizations, such as the American League for Peace and Democracy and the Committee for Concerted Peace Efforts, and are presented in a more rounded out and complete manner in the election platform of our National Committee."

MAY 22 1942

eral Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

JFD:ZM
100-949

November 7, 1941

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

RE: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS;
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent [redacted], Washington, D. C., dated September 25, 1941, in the above entitled case. b7C

There are transmitted herewith the enclosures listed on Page 16 of that report which through an inadvertence were not forwarded to the Bureau at the time of the submission of the report.

Very truly yours,

S. K. McKee

S. K. McKEE
Special Agent in Charge

Encls.

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1 NOV 8 1941
FBI - NEW YORK

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK CITY

FILE NO. 100-63

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
BIRMINGHAM	11/6/41	5/22;10/15/41	[redacted] CC b7C

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS	INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Investigation conducted at Montgomery and Mobile, Ala., fails to reveal any activities of instant organization. Pamphlets published by instant group forwarded Bureau.

RUC

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] Birmingham, 4/1/41. b7C

DETAILS: AT MONTGOMERY, ALA.:

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent [redacted] in connection with instant organization with negative results. The following individuals were contacted in the course of that investigation: b7C

[redacted] b7C,D

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AT MOBILE, ALA.:

Agent [redacted] The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent interviewed [redacted] and not any of these individuals had any information on the above organization. They stated that they did not recall ever hearing that it has been in existence in Mobile.

b7C

[redacted] negro, stated that as far as he could ascertain from his various sources, the National Negro Congress was not existent in Mobile. He furnished a newspaper clipping from the Pittsburgh Courier, dated Saturday Aug. 30, 1941, as follows:

b7C,D

"Birmingham, Ala., Aug. 28, 1941. Speaking before a thousand delegates to the Colored Women's Episcopal Convention in Birmingham on Friday August 22nd, Miss Esther Cooper, Administrative Secretary of the Southern Negro Youth Congress, asked them to join with her and other women in the country to do their part in smashing Hitlerism abroad and at home. The conference agreed to send a petition to President Roosevelt protesting the treatment of negro soldiers in the armed forces and asking that such changes be made to insure a democratic army."

b7C,D

[redacted] It is very clearly set out that this is designed to be a Front organization. It states that the LSNR (League of Struggle for Negro Rights) has failed and that there is a need for a National Negro Congress "for the purpose of drawing together all the various mass organizations of the negro people in this country around a program for negro rights on the basis of the United Front."

In addition to this information furnished by [redacted] there was also furnished a copy of the booklet entitled "Equality, Land and Freedom," purporting to be a "Program for Negro Liberation," published by the League of Struggle for Negro Rights,

b7D

2162 7th Ave., NYC. [redacted]

[redacted] plans were laid for the organization of the National Negro Congress to replace the League of Struggle for Negro Rights. A copy of this booklet has been transmitted to the Bureau.

The Birmingham office is also in possession of a release of the National Negro Congress News, which as has the address of the National Office 717 Florida Ave. NW, Washington, D. C. It also sets out the following names of the officers of the publication:

MAX YERGAN, Pres.
JOHN P. DAVIS, Secy.
U. SIMPSON TATE, Treasurer.
JULIUS A. BOSTICK, Financial Secy.
GEORGE B. MURPHY, JR., Administrative Secy.

This release, No. 23, dated 7/8/41, dealt with such matters as the Negro Congress request for investigation of the killing of negro draftees by Military Police, the Anti-Discrimination Bill, the negro boycott of the Noxzema Chemical Co. products, and the struggle over Jim Crow conditions at Coney Island. A copy of this is not being forwarded to the Bureau in view of the fact that it is doubtless already in the possession of copies of this publication.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

SDD:JLK

Atlanta, Georgia
November 5, 1941

AIR MAIL
SPECIAL DELIVERY

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: NATIONAL NEGRO YOUTH CONFERENCE
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

[redacted] advised as of this date that the National Negro Youth Conference is to be held in Washington, D. C., from November 15 through November 17, 1941. [redacted] stated that four individuals from Atlanta, Georgia are planning to attend as representatives of the Southern Negro Youth Congress. BERTHA BOOZER, colored, President of the Atlanta Federation of the Southern Negro Youth Congress, will head the Atlanta delegation to Washington.

67D

Very truly yours,

F. R. HAMMACK,
Special Agent in Charge.

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cc to: Washington Field

61-

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK CITY

FILE NO. 100-619

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA	11/14/41	10/21/41	[redacted] JET:VB b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS	INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

[redacted] b7c

- P -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated 10/8/41, at Washington, D. C. b7c

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated 9/19/41, at Richmond, Virginia.

DETAILS: AT RICHMOND, VIRGINIA: b7c

[redacted]

- P E N D I N G -

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [illegible] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 7-2034

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE RICHMOND FIELD DIVISION

AT ROANOKE, VIRGINIA:

* [redacted]

b7 (

* Will determine the purposes, officers, rules, membership, meetings, and all other pertinent information relating to instant organization in Roanoke, Virginia.

* [redacted]

b7c

AT CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA:

[redacted]

b7c

-PENDING-

MAY 22 1942

1. 67-5-185, 186, 187, 188
Cancelled

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK, N. Y. FILE NO. 100-380

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
CINCINNATI, OHIO	11/21/41	10/8,16,24,31/41 11/13/41	[redacted] b7c ESG

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS	INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

[redacted] b7D

reports on setup of National Negro Congress. S. P. GROSS, President of National Negro Congress, is President of Negro Chamber of Commerce. [redacted]

- P -

REFERENCE: REPORT OF SPECIAL AGENT [redacted] CINCINNATI, OHIO, DATED 9/17/41. b7c

DETAILS: AT CINCINNATI, OHIO

In the reference report, the officers and members of the National Negro Congress in Cincinnati, Ohio, were set out in so far as they were known to [redacted] b7D

Informant [redacted] advised, with reference to the setup of this

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organization, that the correct name is The Hamilton County National Negro Congress. The meetings of the organization are held on the first Thursday of each month, at 8:00 P.M., at 701 West Ninth Street, Cincinnati, Ohio.

[redacted] the officers of the organization [redacted] at the present time were S. P. GROSS (not S. B. GROSS, as set out in the reference report), President; ETHEL LEATHERWOOD, Secretary; MARJORY DOWERS (white), Secretary and Treasurer. b7D

[redacted] advised as follows with reference to the identity of the individuals present at the [redacted] meeting:

[redacted] b7D, c

RE: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

b7D

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted] She attempted to secure an endorsement on behalf of the National Negro Congress for MARJORY DOWERS, Communist Party candidate for City Council, Cincinnati, Ohio. The Board, in fact, endorsed MARJORY DOWERS, [redacted] the endorsement was more or less lip service only, inasmuch as none of the members, with the exception of ETHEL LEATHERWOOD, were very enthusiastic about the DOWERS campaign.

b7D

[redacted] This meeting was held for the purpose of securing the affiliation of numerous other colored organizations in Cincinnati, Ohio, with the National Negro Congress. Among the organizations [redacted] were the GOLDEN EAGLE ATHLETIC CLUB, EAGLE BUSINESS CLUB, YOUNG MEN'S PROGRESSIVE CLUB and SILVER LEAF SOCIAL CLUB. [redacted] each of these organizations had over 40 members, but that no action was taken further than the discussion as to their becoming affiliated with the National Negro Congress.

b7D

[redacted] that it had previously been planned for the National Negro Congress to sponsor, as a membership-gaining plan, a Halloween Party, but that this party had been called off, and that another party would be held on a date to be set at the next regular meeting of the National Negro Congress.

[redacted] advised that he was of the very definite opinion that the National Negro Congress was formed by MARJORY DOWERS in furtherance of her campaign for election to the City Council, Cincinnati, Ohio, on the Communist Party ticket. b7D

[redacted] stated that S. P. GROSS, President of the National Negro Congress and the Negro Chamber of Commerce, was completely unreliable and was not respected among the colored population generally. He advised, however, that GROSS, to the best of his knowledge, was not a member of the Communist Party, nor affiliated with the Communist Party. b7D

[redacted] b7D

RE: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

[redacted] b7D

Ten others, whose identities were unknown [redacted]

[redacted] advised b7D
that the entire discussion was taken up with the proposition of the National Negro Congress running or supporting a Communist Party candidate in the next councilmanic election. [redacted]

- P E N D I N G -

RE: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

THE CINCINNATI FIELD DIVISION

* AT WILBERFORCE, OHIO

Will conduct a discreet investigation of [redacted] b7C,D

[redacted] inter-view them regarding the National Negro Congress. If either or both are interviewed and show a willingness to give information they should be fully questioned regarding the background of the National Negro Congress, its leaders, purposes, membership and activities. All literature available regarding this organization should be secured.

* AT CINCINNATI, OHIO

* Will conduct a similar investigation regarding [redacted] b7C

* Will set out the background of [redacted] and [redacted] leaders in subject organization.

Will maintain contacts with [redacted] to report the activities of subject organization.

b7D

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

KRM:CJ

October 29, 1941

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. KRAMER

RE: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS

I am transmitting herewith for your information a memorandum, dated October 28, 1941, concerning the above organization and containing information which appeared in various issues of "The Communist" magazine.

Respectfully,

K. R. McIntire.

Attachment

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DATE 4/24/79 BY SP-1 CSK/RH

11-67-8-17

October 28, 1941

NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS

The following statement is taken from an editorial entitled "Review of the Month":

> "It is equally beyond dispute that the pioneering and trail-blazing work of the Communists has played a great part in opening the road towards the now developing broad people's movement. Our Party as a whole can justly take pride - not to rest in self satisfaction - in the role it played and is playing in awakening the Negro people, in helping to organize them, in bringing forth such Negro leaders as Ford and Herndon, and in promoting that united and people's front for Negro rights which resulted in the creation of the National Negro Congress."

Earl Browder in a report to the November Plenum of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, U.S.A., speaking on the subject of the United Front stated:

> "There is also the rise of the important movement for the National Negro Congress which rises out of these mass developments and which promises to embrace the wide masses of Negro people into a powerful movement for Negro rights and Negro liberation. The National Negro Congress movement was last month endorsed by the National Executive Committee of the Socialist Party. Consequently, there arises for our Party a number of important political tasks. I will list these briefly:
>
> "1. To intensify the struggle for the organization of the Negro workers into the trade unions. To build up the widest united front for the breaking down of all barriers of discrimination. To develop the struggle for equal access to jobs and for Negro equality.

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"2. To prosecute most energetically the work of organizing the Negro farmers, the tenant and sharecroppers, to fight for their economic and political demands, and to seek to promote the unity of action of Negro and white farmers.

"3. To render the utmost support to the Negro Congress in order to help it become the people's movement of the Negroes for equal rights and complete liberation. To mobilize the masses of white toilers against lynching and all forms of jim-crow rule and oppression."

In a speech delivered at the November Plenum, James W. Ford stated:

"These are some of the minimum demands of the program around which we can develop and build up a broad united front movement. Let us help build the National Negro Congress.....I believe, as I said in the beginning, that we can see a broad movement of Negro people in this country. We see a wide desire for a united front movement in this country."

In an article entitled "The Coming National Negro Congress" written by James W. Ford and A. W. Berry, it is stated:

"The National Negro Congress scheduled to convene in Chicago on February 14, 1936, will be another historic milepost in the struggles of the Negro people for liberation in the United States of America.....

"Congresses of the Negro people are not new in America. But the character and composition of the 1936 Congress will present something new in the form of working out united efforts on a broad scale.

"....welcome factors that will influence the policies of the coming Congress are

"(1) the changing attitude of the Negro middle class and its organizations;

"(2) the growth of a broad progressive bloc in the official trade union movement pledged to industrial unionism;

"(3) the general united front mass movement of the toilers against fascism and war.....

"The general united front movement has had the greatest influence among the Negro youth, who, almost everywhere in the country, are uniting their organizations to carry through progressive social activity directed against jim-crowism and segregation. A great upsurge has been seen among both white and Negro farmers and agricultural workers who have effected fighting organizations during the depression in the heart of the reaction-ridden 'deep South'.....

"Six demands around which the discussions and decisions will revolve point out already the main direction to be taken by the Congress. We quote from the Call to the National Negro Congress:

"'1. The right of Negroes to jobs at decent living wages and for the right to join all trades unions. For the right to equal wages and equal labor conditions with other workers. For the organization of Negro workers with their fellow white workers into democratically controlled trade unions.

"'2. Relief and security for every needy Negro family; and, for geniune social and unemployment insurance without discrimination.

"'3. Aid to the Negro farm population, to ease the burden of debts and taxation; for the right of farmers, tenants and sharecroppers to organize and bargain collectively.

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"'4. A fight against lynching, mob violence and police brutality; for enactment of a federal anti-lynching law; for the right to vote, serve on juries and enjoy complete civil liberty.

"'5. The right of Negro youth to equal opportunity in education and in the economic life of the community.

"'6. For complete equality for Negro women; for their right, along with all women, to equal pay for equal work; for their right to a suitable environment for themselves and their children - an environment which demands adequate housing, good schools, and recreational facilities; for their right to organize as consumers.

"'7. To oppose war and fascism, the attempted subjugation of Negro people in Ethiopia, the oppression of colonial nations throughout the world; for the independence of Ethiopia.'

"With hard work and energy we can be assured that the National Negro Congress will be the beginning of a real Negro liberation movement, a historic step in the direction of land, equality and freedom. The Communist Party wholeheartedly supports the National Negro Congress."

The following is a quotation taken from an article entitled "New Steps in the United Front" written by Earl Browder:

"It is necessary to say a few words also about the problems of broadening the united mass struggle for Negro rights, and what this means for the policy of the Communists. The Communist Party is proud of its past work in this field and especially of our long and bitter struggle for the Scottsboro boys, for Angelo Herndon, for the organization of the Negro sharecroppers, for the carrying of mass organization and struggle into the dark South.....

"It is for these reasons that the Communist Party believes that all its members and sympathizers should welcome the initiative that is being taken by a broad group of representative Negroes in all walks of life in the planning for a National Negro Congress to take place early next year. We believe that it is possible for this Congress to hammer out a program, acceptable to all fighters for Negro liberation, including the Communists, which we can wholeheartedly support."

An article written by Earl Browder entitled "Recent Political Developments and Some Problems of the United Front" states:

"Another concrete question is the plan for the National Negro Congress. This is a beginning, it seems, to a real broad united-front approach to the Negro liberation struggle.....The next big step in the struggle for Negro rights will be the National Negro Congress."

James W. Ford in an article styled "The National Negro Congress" states:

"Through the vigilance, energy and steadfastness of the Communist Party on the Negro question a powerful movement among the Negro people is taking solid root.....

"This fact was never before so clearly shown as by the National Negro Congress which closed at Chicago on February 16, 1936.....

"Our Party as a whole has helped to organize the Negro people.....

"It may be remembered that the National Negro Congress was proposed last May at a National Conference held in Washington. Earlier, in January, 1934, at a symposium held in New York between Frank R. Crosswaith, Oscar De Priest, and myself, I made a suggestion for the calling of a National Negro Congress.....

"We Communists were never doubtful about the significance or the outcome of the National Negro Congress."

The following quotation appeared in an article entitled "Problems of Party Growth in the New York District" written by Max Steinberg:

> "In the field of our general Negro work, we must note the splendid achievements in developing the united front of the Negro and white people around the National Negro Congress."

Post Office Box 2344
BOSTON, MASS.

November 25, 1941

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Re: PROCEDURAL REPORT RELATIVE TO
MEMBERSHIP LISTS IN SUBVERSIVE
GROUPS
INTERNAL SECURITY

[redacted]

[redacted]

0/5

[redacted]

NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS

Complete membership lists have not been secured on the organization [redacted]

67 D

Very truly yours,

V. W. PETERSON
Special Agent in Charge

LCH:TRD
100-2626

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NOV 27 1941
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JOHN EDGAR HOOVER -
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

DML:CSH

October 30, 1941

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Foxworth
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Nease
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hollomon
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Harbo
Tele. Room
Tour Room
Mr. Nease
Mr. Tracy
Miss Beahan
Miss Gandy

MEMORANDUM FOR ~~THE DIRECTOR~~ Mr. Tamm

By reference from [redacted] I received a telephone call from [redacted] of the War Risk Insurance Division. [redacted] and informed me that the American Negro Youth Congress is endeavoring to rent "Turner's Arena"; that the officials of "Turner's Arena" would not want to rent this auditorium to this group unless they obtained clearance from the American Legion; and [redacted] desired to know whether this was a Communist group. b7C b7D

I referred [redacted] to [redacted] informing him that [redacted] had at the present moment information concerning a number of groups and would be the person who would pass on whether these groups were subversive, Communistically-inclined, or otherwise the type of group that the American Legion would not want to endorse. b7C, D

Respectfully,

D. M. Ladd

Matters

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MAY 22 1942

61-6928-193

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Origin: NEW YORK, NEW YORK — Lvlle. File No. 100-230

Made At	Date Made	Period	Made By
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY	11-27-41	11-23,25; 12-24, 31-40; 1-8; 2-1; 3-3; 9-12; 10-1, 2,11,12; 11-17, 18-41	[redacted] GJC:ed b7C

Title	Character
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS	INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Synopsis: Canvass of the State of Kentucky fails to reflect that the subject organization is active in this State.

- RUC -

Reference: Bureau teletype dated November 5, 1940.

Details: Upon receipt of the reference teletype, a state-wide canvass was conducted to determine whether or not this organization is presently active or has been active. [redacted] and informants in the principal cities were contacted in the course of this survey in the following towns: Paducah, Owensboro, Henderson, Bowling Green, Louisville, Lexington, Frankfort, Covington, Ashland, Pikeville, Pineville, Harlan, and London, Kentucky. b7D

Prior to this survey the indexes of this office were checked to determine if any material is contained therein which would indicate the existence or activity of the subject organization, with negative results: b7C

Special Agent [redacted] conducted discreet, detailed inquiry at Bowling Green, Kentucky, concerning the above organization, and no information was obtained. The following reliable persons were contacted in connection with this inquiry:

[redacted] Warren County b7D

Approved _____ Special Agent in Charge

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[redacted]

b7C,D

Special Agent [redacted] contacted the [redacted] at Ashland, Kentucky, [redacted] concerning any information within his knowledge relative to the subject organization. [redacted] advised there is no such organization to his knowledge in the vicinity. He added [redacted] is on the lookout for an organization of this type, and if he ascertains at any time that it is extent or active in that area he will immediately report it to the Louisville Field Division.

b7C

[redacted] Ashland, advised that he had no knowledge of instant organization in that vicinity.

b7C,D

[redacted] of Olive Hill, Kentucky, was interrogated as to the existence of subject organization, with negative results.

Special Agent [redacted] made a similar inquiry at London, Kentucky, and contacted the following individuals, questioning them concerning the existence of this organization, with negative results:

[redacted]

b7C,D

Special Agent [redacted] interviewed the following individuals concerning the existence of subject organization, with negative results. All persons contacted promised to communicate with the Louisville Field Division if any information was received of such activity in their vicinity:

[redacted]

b7C,D

[redacted] b7C, D

Special Agent [redacted] made further inquiry of the following individuals, with negative results, subsequent to the above contacts:

[redacted] b7C, D

Special Agent [redacted] conducted a survey in the cities of Henderson, Owensboro, and Paducah, Kentucky, and interviewed the individuals set forth below as to the existence of subject organization, with negative results:

b7C, D

AT HENDERSON, KENTUCKY

[redacted]

AT OWENSBORO, KENTUCKY

[redacted] b7C, D

[redacted]

AT PADUCAH, KENTUCKY

[redacted]

b7C,D

Special Agent [redacted] conducted a survey of leading individuals in Pike County, Kentucky, as set forth below, with negative results:

[redacted]

Special Agent [redacted] also interviewed [redacted] all of Harlan, Kentucky, relative to the existence of subject organization, with negative results.

Special Agent [redacted] interrogated the individuals named below in the City of Louisville concerning the existence of the subject organization, with negative results:

[redacted]

b7C,D

[redacted] b7C, D

In addition Agent [redacted] responded on April 25, 1941, to an invitation extended by [redacted] None of these gentlemen could give any information on the subject organization.

Special Agent [redacted] contacted the following persons in the Lexington, Kentucky, district whose names are listed below, and specific inquiry if they had information regarding this organization elicited negative information: b7C,

[redacted] b7C, D

Agent [redacted] also contacted the following persons in the Frankfort, Kentucky, district, with negative results:

[redacted] b7C, D

Special Agent [redacted] contacted the following persons in the Covington, Kentucky, district whose names are listed below, with negative results:

[redacted]

b7c, D

Agent [redacted] also contacted the following persons in the Newport, Kentucky, area, with negative results:

[redacted]

b7c, D

Agent [redacted] also contacted the following at Fort Thomas, Kentucky, with negativeresults:

[redacted]

b7c, D

Inasmuch as this organization is not existent or active in the State of Kentucky as shown by the above contacts, this case is being referred upon completion to the office of origin.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE

OFFICE OF ORIGIN

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Form No. 1 —
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK CITY, N. Y. FILE NO. 100-406

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
Baltimore, Maryland	12-16-41	10-31;11-1-41	[redacted] EB b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS	INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Information that Headquarters has a drive to force Glenn L. Martin Company to hire Negro workers and is being set up at the Elks Auditorium. 1941 Maryland license tags 169-148 issued to [redacted] b7c [redacted] No information concerning him in files.

- P -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated October 8, 1941 at Washington, D. C. b7c

DETAILS: AT BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

By confidential memorandum dated June 21, 1941, Lieutenant Colonel, M. S. EDDY in the Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff, Third Corps Area, advised as follows:

" There are being, at the present time circulated on the streets of Baltimore, a large number of handbills being published and distributed by the Subject organization, one of the handbills carried the headline: " Jim Crowe Destroys Defense - Negro Americans Want Jobs and Peace " and the other circular carries the headline: "7000 Jobs for Negroes at Glenn L. Martin's ".

The latter circular urges all who are interested, to send telegrams and letters to the President of the United States, to Mr. Frank Knox, Secretary of War,

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E. A. Tamm		100-406-111

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(obviously an error) and to Mr. Sidney Hillman, Office of Production Management.

There is a headquarters being set up for this drive in Baltimore, it being located at the Elks Auditorium, Madison Avenue and McMechen Streets, with telephone number Madison 4915. All persons volunteering in this drive to force negro employment on the Glenn L. Martin Company will be transported to that plant to make an application and upon refusal, will again make application the next day. It is stated that the drive is drive is to be started immediately. *

A check of the records in the Office of the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles was made by MISS [redacted] and disclosed that 1941 Maryland License Tags 169-148 were issued to [redacted] Baltimore, for Plymouth De Luxe Roadster New.

[redacted] 67C

PENDING

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE BALTIMORE FIELD DIVISION

AT BALTIMORE, MARYLAND, will conduct an investigation to verify the location of the National Negro Congress Headquarters at the Elks Auditorium at Madison Avenue and Mc Mechen Streets.

Will ascertain what phone calls have been made from that telephone number Madison 4915 and will determine what persons are behind this particular movement and their present activities.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK CITY

FILE NO. 100-195

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
OKLAHOMA CITY	12-18-41	12-17-41	[redacted] b7c DM

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS	INTERNAL SECURITY - C.

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

[redacted] investigation reveals no activity on the party of negroes in Muskogee toward the Communistic movement. b7D

- RUC -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] Oklahoma City, dated 9-22-41. b7C

DETAILS:

[redacted] b7D requesting that he conduct an investigation of the alleged widespread activity of the Negro element in his city.

[redacted] he made a thorough investigation of this matter in Muskogee and was unable to learn of anything of that nature taking place in Muskogee. b7D

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Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

New York, New York

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Hollingsworth
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Candy
Files

FLG:ASR
100-3633

December 23, 1941

CONFIDENTIAL

declassified by SJ-1 65K/RH 6/13/79

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith are the originals of reports dated November 13, 29 and December 2, 6, 11 and 17, 1941 of [redacted] which relates to the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS.

b7D

Copies of [redacted] reports are being placed in the files for use in connection with the investigation of this organization.

Very truly yours,

P. E. FOXWORTH
Assistant Director

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY FBI SLIP(S) OF 12-24-41 DATE 12-24-41

Enclosures (6)
cc - 65-8295

DEC 23 1941

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

December 23, 1941

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

In connection with the establishment of the Norfolk Office and the reallocation of territory:

____ 1. This entire file has been transferred to the Norfolk Office.

xx 2. Serials 2-3-4-5-10-12-13-18

were forwarded to the Norfolk Office for investigation there.

The office of origin in this case is New York, N.Y.

Very truly yours,

MES:EH
100-619

C. E. HENNRICH
Special Agent in Charge

cc Norfolk
New York

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

This Case Originated At NEW YORK CITY — File No. 100-294 FAQ

Report Made At	Date When Made	Period For Which Made	Report Made By
BOSTON, MASS.	12-13-41	9/5,18,27/41; 10/15,27,29-31/41; 11/6/41.	[redacted] b7C

Title	Character of Case
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS	INTERNAL SECURITY - R

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

[redacted] b/5

- P -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] at Boston, Massachusetts, dated August 5, 1941. b7C

DETAILS: During the investigation of the case entitled [redacted] INTERNAL SECURITY - R, [redacted] New York Origin, the following material being reported herein below was secured from [redacted] b/5 b7D

In a letter dated April 10, 1940 it was stated that the Eastern New England Congress for Equal

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Opportunities is affiliated with the National Negro Congress.

The Boston Branch is located at 558 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston, Massachusetts. The designated officers are as follows: Chairman, JOHN S. R. BOURNE; General Secretary, Miss ELLEN H. WILLIAMS; Acting General Secretary, WILLIAM HARRISON.

A letterhead of the same organization, undated, describes MASTON O. NELSON as General Secretary.

The above letter of April 10, 1940 was a general circular letter calling attention to the fact that the Third National Negro Congress was to be held in Washington, D. C. on April 26-28, and in connection with these preparations the Boston Committee had arranged for a concert-reception on Sunday, April 21 at the Repertory Theatre, Huntington Avenue, Boston. JOHN P. DAVIS of Washington, D. C., Executive Secretary of the National Negro Congress, was to be the speaker. WILLIAM HARRISON of the Chronicle office, a negro newspaper, was in charge of tickets and reservations.

Transmitted, apparently, with the above circular letter was the "CALL TO THE THIRD NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS, April 26, 27, 28, 1940." This call is quoted herein:

"CALL TO THE THIRD NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS

"APRIL 26, 27, 28, 1940

"Never before has democracy in America faced such a crisis as at present when organizations which openly proclaim the anti-democratic doctrines of racial prejudice and religious intolerance have appeared on the scene. These groups, which are a threat to all minorities, have always denied that the Negro people should enjoy those civil rights guaranteed to all Americans by the Declaration of Independence and the Federal Constitution. They are now fighting desperately the passage of the anti-Lynch bill.

"The National Negro Congress was founded in February, 1935, at Chicago, for the main purpose of

protecting the rights of the Negro people from un-American and anti-democratic forces. Such protection is for the good of all Americans, because we are one people.

"This year's National Convention of the National Negro Congress will be held in the Auditorium of the United States Department of Labor, Washington, D. C., April 26, 27, and 28, 1940. It is desired that large delegations from Negro and White organizations attend, so that a truly representative gathering of America's most liberal and progressive Negro and white citizens interested in the welfare of the nation's largest minority may be held. Such a representative body can aid immeasurably in bringing about the immediate passage of the Anti-Lynch Bill.

"The battle-lines are forming. Effort is being made to drive America into war with its frightful cost. At the same time many communities need hospitals, playgrounds, schools, clinics, which the cost of a war would build. Youth needs a chance; millions are hungry. Progressive-minded Americans of all creeds and colors must unite their combined efforts. The Negro people ask you to join them in this righteous crusade.

"The Eastern New England Congress for Equal Opportunities, local branch of the National Negro Congress, invites your organization to their forthcoming Convention.

INFORMATION

"First session of the Congress will begin at 7:30 P.M. on Friday, April 26. Registration fee of each delegate at Washington is $1.50. The cost of lodging will be $1.00 a night. Wholesome meals may be had for as little as $1.00 a day. For information on transportation, communicate with our Secretary, Mr. Harrison. Please notify us, if your organization votes to send delegates.

JOHN S. R. BOURNE WILLIAM HARRISON DR. R. A. SIMMONS
Chairman Secretary

Eastern New England Congress for Equal Opportunities
558 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston, Mass.

***

"The Congress will appreciate whatever donation you may see fit to make towards the expenses of its own delegates. Please make all checks or money orders payable to — Milton Snowden, Treasurer, Eastern N. E. Congress for Equal Opportunities, 34 Clark Street, Everett, Mass.
**********"

"CALL FOR THE THIRD NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS

"The First and Second National Negro Congresses were called together to deal with grave problems facing the Negro People. At these two great meetings thousands of the best representatives among us met together and worked out a program of action. Now in a world ridden with war it is time again to summon the Negro People and the friends of Negro freedom to close ranks, lock hands, and courageously deal with the crisis which today threatens the security of every section of Negro America. It is out of this crisis that the need for a Third National Negro Congress arises.

"We state in plain words the problems which must be solved if the Negro People are to live as free men.

"Millions of Negro People in America are hungry and jobless. Eleven hundred thousand negroes who used to work in mills and factories, on railroads, as building mechanics, in mines, stores, ~~and~~ hotels, and other enterprises today have no jobs. More than half of them have had no steady jobs for years. They have led a hand-to-mouth existence. For a few there has been occasional help, through relief or a WPA job. But the amounts of such relief aid and the number of such jobs have dwindled from month to month. In the last twelve months more than 125,000 Negroes have been fired from WPA jobs. And most of these have been driven back to the ranks of the unemployed. At least another 75,000 Negroes now on WPA will lose their jobs in the next six months under the proposed reduction in WPA money for the coming year.

"No one knows how many tens of thousands of Negro families have been cut off relief. But there

is not a Negro center in America where hundreds of such families have not been dropped from relief, despite"

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the fact that they have no ot..... to live.

"There are fewer chances .....ro youth to find work in industry. Industry more and more demands s..... labor. But the door to skilled training remains closed to Negro .... and girls. For tens of thousands of trained high school and college youth who graduate each year there are but a few paltry hundreds of jobs open.

"Even the millions of Negro industrial workers who still have jobs are working for the lowest wages at the longest hours. They are robbed of a chance to advance on the job, to secure raises in wages. Serfdom of cook and maid, of long hours, low wages and intolerable working conditions is still the lot of most Negro women workers.

"From the throats of more than five million Negro wage-earners there comes today a single cry: 'Give us a chance to earn our daily bread at a steady job.'

"The masses of Negro People in America lives in structures unfit for human beings. They live in fire-traps. Nearly four hundred of them burn, smother, or suffocate to death because of this. They live crowded together in insanitary and enforced squalor. Because of this the death and disease rates in each thousand of Negro population are greater than those for whites.

"Landlords squeeze families with unfairly high rent in rundown houses they refuse to repair. City officials refuse to improve Negro communities. Real estate owners mark out small ~~areas~~ slum areas for Negroes to occupy; and then make contracts among themselves to prevent Negroes living anywhere else. And these contracts are enforced by the courts.

"In the Negro communities of America there are always too few hospitals, too few playgrounds, clinics, schools. The Negro child....in no place in America... has half a chance to grow up healthy, wholesome, or properly educated. In hundreds of counties in the South there are NO hospitals, NO playgrounds, NO high schools, NO clinics for the Negro population.

"An economic cancer has eaten at the heart of Negro farm families in America for ten years. Each year larger numbers of them have lost their homes, have received less cash income, have had less to eat. Each year a larger number of them have been driven from plantations as sharecroppers onto the roads as landless, homeless, wage-hands getting 40 or 50 days work a year at less than a dollar a day. At the very moment this is said tens of thousands of them have not a roof over their heads, not a dime they can call their own.

"Underlying all of these problems is the denial to large masses of the Negro People of their fundamental rights as American citizens. Three million Negro citizens are still denied every effective means of exercising the right to vote in democratic America. The mob and the rope still rule large sections of the country. In October and November of 1939 hooded mobs of Klansmen litterally flogged and beat at least 100 Negroes in South Carolina alone. In other states the Klansmen have carried on a persistent reign of terror against thousands of Negroes to deprive them of their citizenship rights. And these acts of violence have gone unpunished by federal or state authority.

"And these are but examples of hundreds of ways in which evil forces in America oppress, Jim Crow and intimidate the Negro people——rob them of their civil liberties and seek to destroy their heritage as free men.

"Thus to those who love America we address this Call for the Third National Negro Congress to meet in the city of Washington, D. C., April 26, 27, 28, 1940. We invite to this great national meeting the representatives of trade unions, churches, civic groups, women's and youth clubs and every other kind of organization concerned with the well-being of the American people. The Third National Negro Congress will unite for action thousands of progressive groups of American People. It will unite these groups in the noble effort to bring peace, prosperity and complete democracy to our country.

"The Third National Negro Congress — as has been true of the first and second congresses — will remain a great non-partisan body not dominated and not controlled by any political group. It will not duplicate the courageous efforts of other groups, but rather will weld together the strength of these groups into one powerful expression of the will of the Negro People and their friends for justice. Through the Third National Negro Congress the Negro People will continue to march to freedom.

"The battle lines are forming in America today. Make no mistake about it. Already such men as Vice President Garner and Senator Tom Connally of Texas are scheming ways to defeat the anti-lynching bill in the United States Senate. Already reactionary forces of both parties in Congress are plotting — and sometimes successfully — to curtail vital social services and destroy progressive labor legislation - thus robbing the people of every gain they have made in recent years. This gang is playing for high stakes: for control of the national elections. They are seeking to drive the American People toward war: and to use the threat of war as a smoke screen behind which to attack our living standard and civil liberties.

"They can be beaten. Our job is to unite Negro People as never before in a struggle to beat back these attacks upon us. Our job is to join with the great labor movement and the many progressive-minded white

Americans in a combined effort to defend democracy in America. We are not just beginning this job. The first and second congresses have shown America that through unity real victories can be won for the Negro People. We need more such

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"victories. And we will win them through unity.

"That is why every organization has the solemn responsibility to heed this call by sending its representatives to attend this important national meeting. The United States Congress will be debating the fate of major national issues. And seated in Congress are hundreds of Congressmen and Senators who owe their seats to the Negro vote. They should be made to feel the strength of the Negro People. National political leaders will be planning for their party conventions. They should be made to feel the urgent needs of the Negro People. Never before was there ~~xxxx~~ so rich an opportunity for the Negro People to win their democratic rights. Every organization which sends delegates to the Third National Negro Congress will be helping to realize this opportunity.

"The month of April in Washington is a symbol of freedom to the Negro People. For in this month in 1862 slavery was forever abolished in the Nation's Capitol. Washington is at the very heart of America. It is fitting that the combined voice of the Negro People should be heard in the highest forum of our land.

"We conclude this call to liberty-loving organizations of the American People with the words of the matchless leader of the Negro People, Frederick Douglass:

> 'The whole history of the progress of liberty, shows that all concessions have been born of earnest struggle. If there is no struggle there is no progress. Those who profess to favor freedom yet deprecate agitation are men who want crops without plowing ground. Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and never will.'

"Forward to liberty for the Negro People. Forward to the Third National Negro Congress."

There was observed a pledge for contributions to assist in sending delegates to the Congress, which is as follows:

"..... List Please ...iate

..... U N I T E .....

TO PASS THE ANTI-LYNCH BILL

HELP MAKE AMERICA A TRUE DEMOCRACY!

The NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS will meet on April 26, 27, 28th, 1940 at Washington, D. C. NEW ENGLAND SHOULD BE REPRESENTED. Delegates are invited from all organizations. You are asked to make contributions to help send delegates.

***

On March 9, 1941, as reported in reference report, a local organization held a state-wide conference at Lincoln Halls, 158 West Springfield Street, Boston, Massachusetts. The Sponsors of this state-wide conference are as follows:

"REV. J. H. D. BAILY, Columbus A.M.E. Zion Church
MRS. EDNA BLACK
PROF. H. W. L. DANA
REV. DAVID LEROY FERGUSON, St. Cyprian Church
WALTER FOSTER
RAY GUILD, National Association Advancement of Colored People
REV. FR. KENNETH HUGHES, St. Bartholomew's Church
EDWARD JACKSON, Vice President, Mass. C.I.O.
CLIVE KNOWLES, Labor's Non-Partisan League
REV. SAMUEL L. LAVISCOUNT, St. Mark's Congregational Church
JOSEPH LEE, Boston School Committee
DR. DONALD LOTHROP, Community Church of Boston
THOMAS McGUAN, National Maritime Union
NATHANIEL MILLS JR., Mass. Youth Council
REV. M. J. MINOR, Metropolitan Baptist Church
Mrs. ROSE NORWOOD, Women's Trade Union League
REV. RICHARD M. OWENS, People's Baptist Church
DR. SAMUEL PAVLO, National Association Advancement of Colored People
DR. and MRS. CHARLES G. STEWARD
MISS ODILE SWEENEY, Cambridge Community Center
DR. PAUL M. SWEEZY, Harvard
MRS. HELEN SYLINSKI, Laundry Workers Union A.F.L.
R. NALE THOMPSON, Dining Car Employees Union
MICHAEL TYSON, Sec'y. Greater Boston Industrial Council
CECIL WARD, Sugar Workers Union
ALFRED HOUGHTON
J. CASWELL SMITH, Executive Secretary Boston Urban League
Organizations listed are for identification purposes only"

[redacted]

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There was found a copy of a release, dated March 27, 1941, to the Boston Chronicle, a Negro newspaper, from the Massachusetts Youth Congress as follows:

"March 27, 1941

"Release to BOSTON CHRONICLE
From the Mass. Youth Council

"Boston, March 27 —— Edward Strong, Nationally prominent leader of colored youth, will arrive in Boston on Friday, March 28, to attend the National Conference for Democracy in Education at Harvard this weekend, it was announced today by the Mass. Youth Council. Mr. Strong is Executice Secretary of the Southern Negro Youth Congress, Vice-Chairman of the American Youth Congress and an officer of many other organizations.

"After the Conference at Harvard, Mr. Strong will remain in Boston, until Thursday, April 3. During this time he is expected to speak to several of the colored youth organizations of Boston. On Tuesday evening, April 1, he will meet with the Provisional Committee for the Mass. Negro Youth Council. At this time, it is expected that Mr. Strong will be of great assistance to the building of an organization which will represent and fight for equal opportunity for colored youth in Massachusetts, as the Southern Negro Youth Congress does in the South."

There was also observed a pamphlet published by the National Negro Youth Council of the National Negro Congress, 177 Florida Avenue N.W., Washington, D. C., which was entitled "Negro Youth Holds Conscription as a Menace to Their Lives and Liberty and to the Maintenance of Democracy," which dealt entirely with the subject matter. These two pamphlets constitute an attack on the conscription bill and states "that the real program for national defense included,

first, passage of the American Youth Act; second, passage of the anti-lynching bill; third, passage of the Geyer anti-poll tax bill; fourth, more N.Y.A., C.C.C. appropriations; fifth, passage of the Wagner Health Bill; sixth, increased federal aid for education; seventh, more W.P.A. and relief appropriations; eighth, an expanded housing program."

The Boston Guardian of September 27, 1941, a negro newspaper, reflects that a reception was given by instant organization locally to members of the cast of the play "Native Son." "Secretary William H. Harrison was master of ceremonies, and Dr. R. A. Simmons, national and local vice-president addressed the large crowd thanking them for aiding the congress' campaign for jobs for all."

The same press of October 11, 1941 carried an article as follows:

> "Greater Boston Colored youth are enthusiastic about the National Youth Conference at the Metropolitan Baptist Church, of Washington, D. C., Nov. 14-16. Plans are being made for a series of meetings this weekend, October 10-13, with members of the National Initiating Committee who are visiting Boston. One meeting is at the Community Forum, 464 Mass. Ave., 6 6p. m. Sunday, Oct. 12. Another on Sunday at the Cambridge Community Center, 49 Howard St., Cambridge. The Boston organizing Committee are: Miss Frances Rose, N. A. A. C. P. Youth Council; Miss Bernard Lewis, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority; Miss Dorothy Smith, Community Forum; Miss Cotabelle Smith, Cambridge Committee for Equal Opportunities; William Harrison, Executive Secretary N. E. Congress; and Leon E. Bailey, Treasurer Massachusetts Youth Council."

Regarding the same conference the Daily Worker of October 21, 1941 advised that this conference was to be a three-day conference to be held at the Metropolitan Baptist Church, Washington, D. C. The chairman of the National Initiating Committee of this conference was Miss Winifred Norman, of New York City. Regarding this conference it is significant that in the investigation of the case entitled [redacted] revealed copies of a circular published by the National Conference of Negro Youth, 2374 7th Avenue, New York City.

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Among the members of the National Initiating Committee was Miss COTABELLE SMITH who is referred to subsequently herein in this report as chairman of the Cambridge

Congress for Equal Opportunities. [redacted]

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[redacted] have transferred their interest from the Cambridge Youth Council to the Cambridge Committee for Equal Opportunities. He advises that Miss ALICE SOLOMON who is reported in reference report as one of the sponsors of the Cambridge Committee for Equal Opportunities was definitely not in sympathy with the Communist Party program. The headquarters of the Cambridge Committee for Equal Opportunities is the Cambridge Community Center, a Negro settlement house located at 49 Howard Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts. He advised that the Cambridge Committee for Equal Opportunities is comprised of mixed membership and is not restricted to any race or color.

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Miss COTABELLE SMITH is the Secretary. [redacted] did not know if she was a member of the Young Communist League but she, undoubtedly, was very sympathetic with their aims and program of Negro work. She is a negress, a resident of Cambridge, Massachusetts, 20 years of age. He does not believe she attended college.

The organization was engaged, in September 1940, in circulating petitions directed against the alleged discriminating of the Simplex Wire and Cable Company, Cambridge, Massachusetts, which has a large national defense order.

[redacted] advises that the Cambridge Committee for Equal Opportunities has been holding weekly meetings on Wednesday nights at the Cambridge Community Center, and the organization has a membership of approximately 30 active members. [redacted]

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The Cambridge Youth Council was one of the sponsors of this organization from its beginning, which was done at the request of [redacted]

The Boston Chronicle, a Negro newspaper, subsequently reported that the Simplex Wire and Cable Company at a conference with EDWARD H. LAWSON, Regional Investigator for the Office of Production Management, had agreed to employ colored workers. This company was investigated, according to the above press, in response to a complaint sent by the Cambridge Committee for Equal Opportunities. President E. E. MORSE of the above firm admitted receiving many phone calls and visits from delegates of this organization and the Urban League protesting against the refusal of the company to hire the colored workers.

b7D

[redacted] a mimeographed two-page pamphlet [redacted] from the Cambridge [redacted] which was published by that organization and entitled as Special Issue, September 1941; editor - Miss CORNELLE SMITH. This publication is entitled "Victory Against Discrimination. Simplex Wire & Cable Co. Changes Its Policy." This is being quoted as follows:

"The people of Cambridge have won a great victory against discrimination in defense industry. The Cambridge Committee for Equal Opportunities is happy to announce that the campaign to end discrimination in the Simplex Wire and Cable Company, has met its first big success.

"At a conference between the president of the firm, Mr. Everett Morse, and a representative of the Labor Division of the Office of Production Management, Mr. Edward Lawson, Mr. Morse stated that the company will henceforth change its policy towards Negro applicants, and will accept and consider equally with all others applications of Negro men for employment.

"VICTORY FOR PUBLIC OPINION

"Mr. Morse admitted that public pressure and the indignation of the people, Colored and White, of Cambridge and vicinity, forced the change of policy. He said that he had received letters, phone calls, and delegations from many people and organizations, notably from the Urban League, the State Employment Office, and the Cambridge Committee for Equal Opportunities.

"CAMPAIGN STARTED IN APRIL

"Just five months ago, in April, the Committee for Equal Opportunities started the campaign to end discrimination at the Simplex Wire and Cable Company.

"Hundreds of Bulletins and circulars informing the people of the discriminatory policy of Simplex were issued. Delegations were organized, and hundreds of signatures secured on petitions. Congressman Elliot gave us his cooperation, and the Labor Division of the OPM sent its investigator who received from the company the statement of its change of policy.

"Special and final credit must go to the many hundreds of people who signed the petitions, distributed publicity, went on delegations and did all the other necessary work. We want to thank all the people and organizations who cooperated to bring about a blow at Jim Crow.

"LET US FINISH THE JOB!

"Our victory at Simplex will only be complete when Colored workers are actually in its employ. We must continue exerting pressure with even greater energy till the company makes good its statement.

"CAMBRIDGE COMMITTEE FOR EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES 49 Howard Street Special Issue September 1941 Miss Cotabelle Smith - Editor"
(page 1)

"A VICTORY AGAINST HITLERISM

"By ending discrimination in this defense industry in Cambridge, a great contribution has been made to national unity Hitler and Hitlerism in our own country. Race prejudice, division, discrimination,-these are Hitler's methods; and the American people want no part of Hitlerism. All over the country there is a rising tide of protest against discrimination. As a result there has been a notable increase in the employment of Negroes-47% increase from January to May of 1941 over the same period last year. Jim Crow barriers are crumbling. Now is the time to put to flight the little Hitlers who spread disunity and prejudice at a time of national crisis.

"JIM CROW IN THE ARMY ENDANGERS DEFENSE

"The shooting of a Negro private at Fort Bragg. The lynching of a Negro selectee at Fort Benning. These and many other shocking incidents are arousing the people to the tremendous danger stemming from Jim Crow in the armed forces. It was always the most reactionary groups who perpetuated this shameful system, and today it is the appeasers who preach race hatred in order to undermine the morale and unity of our army and nation. The Negro soldier has always demonstrated his great love for liberty and his tremendous courage and bravery in defending it. All liberty loving people should demand COMPLETE EQUALITY FOR THE NEGRO SOLDIER IN THE DEFENSE OF AMERICA.

"A recent issue of the Pittsburgh Courier featured an open letter to the President, condemning Jim Crow.

Many organizations, particularly of Labor, have gone on record against Jim Crow. The protest should and will grow till segregation and discrimination in the armed forces is a past memory. Write today to the President and Congress. Protest Jim Crow.

"APPLICATIONS AT SIMPLEX

"All those who are eligible (over 21 and a citizen) should immediately go down to the employment office of the Simplex Co. on Sidney Street and make out applications for jobs. Do it this week and next. Do not delay.

"We urge everyone to call or to write to the Simplex Co. telling them that you are glad to hear of its changed policy but you want to see Negroes employed as soon as the company starts hiring again.

"The Cambridge Committee for Equal Opportunities will do all in its power to achieve a 100 per cent victory in this case, and will continue its activities till every remaining trace of discrimination is wiped out of our city.

"REGISTER FOR DEFENSE COURSES

"All young men who wish to enter defense industry are urged and advised to register for the Defense training courses in machine shop work, welding etc. These courses are given by the Government. In Cambridge you can register at the State Employment Division Office at 10 Holyoke Street off Harvard Sq. If you have any difficulty in registering please notify the Committee.

"LABOR'S FRIENDSHIP

"At its recent convention, the Massachusetts State Federation of Labor went on record against discrimination in defense industry, and all discriminatory practices against the Negro people. This is a splendid demonstration of Labor's friendship for the Negro people. We can make this resolution bear fruit by establishing complete cooperation with local labor unions in all our activities for Equal Rights."

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[redacted] the Cambridge Committee for Equal Opportunities was sponsoring the victory celebration with reference to the above Simplex Wire and Cable incident to be held at the Cambridge Community Center. [redacted] same was attended by some 100 people, admission thirty cents. The chairman was JOSEPH VOX (VAUGHAN), [redacted] who was colored. [redacted]

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[redacted]

ARTHUR SOLOMON also engaged in taking tickets at the door and generally stood in the background of the affair.

Other speakers who were called upon to speak from the floor were Professor H. W. L. DANA, JOHN E. REYNOLDS, white, representing the Confectioners Union, American Federation of Labor and a candidate for School Committee in the November elections, Cambridge, Massachusetts, WILLIAM HARRISON, colored, E. C. EASTON, colored, DR. ROBERT A. SIMMONS, National Vice President of the National Negro Congress, whose speech was very militant and in direct contrast to the speech of Attorney RAY GUILD, reported below. [redacted] described SIMMONS

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as of the agitator type. Attorney RAY GUILD of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, [redacted], threw a damper on the spirit of the gathering by questioning the attitude of the local committee in its technique of militancy saying, "Agitation and violence produces nothing." Attorney JOHN S. R. BOURNE was also a speaker. b7D

Letters of regret for inability to attend were received from a Reverend HUGHES and a Mrs. CONANT of the Cambridge Y. W. C. A.

In addition, other speakers were ZARA DUPONT and MARGIE JOHNSON, colored, Cambridge, Massachusetts. No literature was passed out at this meeting.

[redacted] a three-page mimeographed pamphlet published by the Cambridge Committee for Equal Opportunities, October 14, 1941, which is devoted to the promotion of the National Conference of Colored Youth described elsewhere in this report. This is being quoted as follows: b7D

"OCTOBER 1941

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Bulletin, Cambridge Committee for Equal Opportunities"
(page 1)

"AMERICA CALLS YOUTH

"NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF NEGRO YOUTH.- NOV. 14, 15, 16

"New England is responding to the call of the National Conference of Negro Youth, taking place in Washington D.C., November 14, 15, and 16.

"DENIAL OF OPPORTUNITY

"The United States is preparing for the defense of America against invasion; yet the hands of the Negro boys and girls are tied. They are denied full opportunity to work in industry. They are stopped from advancement in the Army, Navy, and Air Corps. Boundless energy, skill and talent is being wasted. Today, as always, the Negro youth stands ready to defend the freedom and existence of his country.

"The youth of America sensed the need of calling together the youth from all organizations, church, 'Y's', schools fraternities, social, college; from the farms, mines, small cities; from the sororities, settlement houses, labor and civic groups. These youth from all walks of life are united in an endeavor to seek a path for the Negro's participation in the defense of America.

"THE MEANING OF HITLERISM

"Hitlerism has destroyed the peace of the world. In Hitler's path follows barbarism, slavery, hunger and poverty. The Norwegians, Danes, Dutch, French, Greeks, Poles, Slavs, Czechs, Africans have felt his blow. The type of world we would have under Hitler would be more than the Negro could endure.

"From within, people with Hitler's fascist, anti-democratic ideas prepare for the attack by sowing seeds of race hatred, by setting religion against religion. They cover up their aims by appealing to our natural love of peace. They spread ideas of false safety to dull our sense of danger.

"Negro youth must unite to meet this danger. There can be no peace, no progress, no security until Hitler is defeated by Great Britain, China, Russia and the United States. Negro youth must play its part.

"NEGRO YOUTH UNITED

"This conference can bring about the unity of Negro Youth. It will make possible a concerted smashing blow against Jim Crow. It will assert Negro youth's determination to participate in the defense of America.

"SPONSORS FOR THE CONFERENCE

"Leaders everywhere are responding by cooperating in the work and endorsing the Conference. Dr. Mary McLoed Bethune, Director of Negro Affairs, NYA., has said such a conference is, 'Timely pertinent, necessary.' Other national sponsors include Joe Louis, Mr. George Goodman, Ex. Sec. Washington Urban League, Paul Robeson, Mr. John P. Davis Sec. National Negro Congress, Dr. Channing Tobias, Y.M.C.A., Pres. Benjamin E. Mays, Morehouse College. Local sponsors include Mr. Morris Taylor, of the Robert Gould Shaw House, Miss Cora Ru... Social Worker, St. Mark Social Center, Rev. Kenneth Hughes, St. Bartholomew's Church. Mr. O. Phillip Snowden, St. Mark Social Center, Mrs. Lillian William Chairman, Jobs Finding Committee Eastern New England Congress for Equal Opportunities

"ARE YOU GOING?

"HAS YOUR ORGANIZATION ELECTED A DELEGATE?

"TAKE IT UP AT YOUR NEXT MEETING.

"CALL THE CAMBRIDGE COMMITTEE FOR EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR A SPEAKER.

"SEND IN YOUR REGISTRATION——TELL YOUR FRIENDS ABOUT THE CONFERENCE.

"VICTORY

"Discrimination, which has eaten away the foundation of American liberty was dealt a crushing blow by the employment of twenty or more Negroes at the Simplex Wire and Cable Company. Victory is sweet as the five month battle ends with a triumph over the Hitler .... methods used in our country and city to keep down the Negro.

"From the tomb of Lincoln, his voice sounds today as it did in 1861. 'This nation can not exist divided.'

"This is our nation. This is our country. We live in it and we must defend it, so why not fight for an even chance in the economic structure of America?

"We in Cambridge have a lot to do to stamp out the rule of those in business who will not employ Negroes in their shops and stores. We remain only half free as long as this kind of un-Americanism exists. We must face the struggle for Negro rights, demanding that the President's executive order be enforced. America will be what you make it today, so let us put our shoulders to the wheel and unite as one to fight this evil. Come out to the meetings of the Cambridge Committee for Equal Opportunities. We need your help and advice. Join with us in our fight for justice and the reality of the bill of rights, because old Jim Crow must go.

"THANK YOU NOTE

"The Cambridge Committee for Equal Opportunities expresses its gratitude for the large audience which recently attended its Victory Celebration. We thank the public for their cooperation in making this affair an outstanding success. Without your help we cannot do much. The first victory in our jobs campaign has shown what united effort can accomplish

"EMPLOYMENT OF NEGRO SALES GIRLS

20

"On Monday, Oct. 7, the Central Square Business Men's Association heard Miss Cottabelle Smith, Chairman of the Cambridge Committee for Equal Opportunities speak on the employment of Negro people in the retail stores in Central Square. Miss Smith told some fifty members and guests of the Association of the hiring of Negroes at the Simplex Wire and Cable Company for the first time in its history. They were reminded that last summer many of the stores promised to hire Negro sales girls in the fall. The breaking down of all discrimination and employment barriers will greatly strengthen national defense and democracy, Miss Smith pointed out.

"Miss Smith received a warm reception at the meeting. The committee has high hopes that this year will see Negro

sales girls behind the counters in many stores. We urge everyone to let the managers know that the public wants to see Negro girls behind the counters.

"HOUSING PROJECT

"Applications are now being accepted for the new housing projects, the Washington Elms. Persons interested may apply at the offices of the Cambridge Housing Authority, 12 Norfolk St., Cambridge.

"BULLETIN

"This is the October issue of the regular monthly bulletin, put out by the Cambridge Committee for Equal Opportunities.

"For information about the Committee, address mail to the Committee at the Cambridge Community Center, Howard St., Cam.

"Meetings take place at the Community Center every other Wednesday evening at eight o'clock. Come on down and join.

COME ONE! COME ALL!

Party November 7, Friday night, at the Young Men's Christian Association. Have a good time and support a good cause. Money will go to send delegates to the Conference for Negro Youth, Washington D.C., Nov. 14, 15, 16."

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[redacted] in an effort to secure a list of members of the New England Congress for Equal Opportunities and the Cambridge Committee for Equal Opportunities.

- PENDING -

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE BOSTON FIELD DIVISION

AT BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

*Will establish the background of the following people who are active in the Eastern New England Congress for Equal Opportunities:

[redacted] b7C

*Will interview [redacted] formerly [redacted] of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and who, according [redacted] of this office, resigned from the NAACP because of alleged Communist infiltration. b7D, c

AT CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

[redacted] for further information concerning the activities of the Cambridge Committee for Equal Opportunities and the influence of the Communist Party and the Young Communist League therein, and [redacted]

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Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
New York, New York

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Egan
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Hollomon
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
Files

FLG:ASR
100-3633

December 26, 1941

CONFIDENTIAL

declassified by SP-1 GSK/RH 4/24/79

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

I am forwarding herewith the original of a report dated December 18, 1941 of [redacted] which relates to the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS.

Copies of the [redacted] report are being placed in the files for use in connection with the investigation of this organization.

Very truly yours,

P. E. Foxworth

P. E. FOXWORTH
Assistant Director

Enclosure
cc - 65-8295

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
SLIP(S) DATE 10/30/79

2 JAN 1 1 1942

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Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
New York, New York

Mr. Coleman
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
Files

FLG:ASR
100-3633

December 30, 1941

CONFIDENTIAL

declassified by SP-1 GSK/RH 4/24/79

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS;
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

I am enclosing herewith a copy of report dated December 23, 1941 of [redacted] which relates to the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS. b7D

Copies of the [redacted] report are being placed in the files for use in connection with the investigation of this organization. b7D

Very truly yours,

P. E. Foxworth

P. E. FOXWORTH
Assistant Director

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF DECLASS. DATE 6/28/79

Enclosure
cc - 65-8295

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Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

New York, New York

FLG:ASR
100-3633

December 30, 1941

CONFIDENTIAL

declassified by SP1 GSK/RH 4/24/79

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS;
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith is the original of a report dated December 4, 1941 of [redacted] which relates to the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS.

Copies of [redacted] report are being placed in the files for use in connection with the investigation of this organization.

Very truly yours,

P. E. Foxworth

P. E. FOXWORTH
Assistant Director

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY TELETYPE SLIP(S) DATE

Enclosure
cc - 65-8295

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New York, New York

FLG:ASR
100-3633

December 19, 1941

CONFIDENTIAL

declassified by SP1 GSK/RA 4/24/79

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith is the original of a report dated December 12, 1941 of [redacted] which relates to the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS.

Copies of [redacted] report are being placed in the file relating to this organization for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

P. E. FOXWORTH
Assistant Director

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF 12/30/41

Enclosure
cc - 61730

DEC 31 1941
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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6 JAN 17 1942

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INTERNAL

61-6728-206

December 15, 1941

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. UGO CARUSI,
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Reference is made to my memorandum dated October 28, 1941, with which were forwarded memoranda concerning the [redacted] which organizations you will recall have been declared "subversive" under Public Law No. 135, 77th Congress.

For your information I am attaching hereto a memorandum concerning the National Negro Congress.

As I previously indicated, copies of these memoranda will be prepared and forwarded to the interested Government Agencies in the event such action meets with your approval.

It is suggested that this action may be advisable inasmuch as it appears that general background information concerning the various "subversive" organizations should be made available to the Employing Agencies for consideration as to the administrative action, if any, which should be taken as a result of membership in such organizations.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

DEC 13

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2 JAN 11 1942

Enclosure

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
DEC 18 1941
P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

December 15, 1941

61-6728-148

NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS

[redacted] b1

[redacted] b1

No further details concerning this Congress are available.

(61-6728-1)

The National Negro Congress, as it exists today, was proposed in May, 1935, at the National Conference held in Washington, D. C.

In the latter part of 1935, a call was issued for a National Negro Congress to meet in Chicago, Illinois on February 14 to 16, 1936. This call was:

> "To all Negroes, native and foreign born. To all Negro organizations, churches, labor unions, farm and sharecroppers' organizations. To all fraternal, civic, professional and political groups. To all organizations and persons of whatever race, who are willing to fight for economic and social justice for Negroes."

Tolson
A. Tamm
Clegg
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Tracy
Nease
Tamm
Coffey
Tandon
Holloman

APPROPRIATE PERSONNEL AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY SLIP (S) OF PRINTING DATE 12-15-41

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DATE OF REVIEW FOR DECLASSIFICATION 4/24/89

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[redacted] b1 (c)

[redacted] b1 (c)

The purpose of the Congress was not to usurp the work of existing organizations, but rather to seek to accomplish unity of action of existing organizations.

[redacted] b1 (c)

The following are the points which the Congress plans to accomplish as outlined by John P. Davis in the call and pamphlet:

1. The organization of the protest of Negro organizations against civic,

social and economic injustices heaped on the Negro and a heightening of that protest.

2. United front of Negro and white organizations around a basic minimum program of Negro rights.

3. Molding on a nation-wide scale, as never before accomplished, public opinion, both Negro and white, against these injustices.

4. A reaction as a result of the first three items listed above among federal, state and local governments which will result in the improvement of the conditions of Negro people in this country, and finally,

5. A reaction as a result of the first three items listed above in the trade union field which will result in fairer treatment of Negro workers by trade unions.

These are some of the minimum demands of the program around which we can develop and build up a broad united front movement. Let us help build the National Negro Congress. It doesn't intend to destroy nor replace other Negro organizations. Every Party member, every Negro comrade, must now begin to throw every bit of energy he can into building local sponsoring committees in communities, helping to raise funds."

Aims and Purposes

The First Congress made the following seven demands:

"1. The right of Negroes to jobs at decent living wages and for the right to join all trade unions. For the right to equal wages and equal labor conditions with other workers. For the organization of Negro workers with their fellow white workers into democractically controlled trade unions.

2. Relief and security for every needy Negro family; for genuine social and unemployment insurance without discrimination.

3. Aid to the Negro farm population, to ease the burden of debts and taxations; for the fight of farmers, tenants and sharecroppers to organize and bargain collectively.

4. For a fight against lynching, mob violence and police brutality; for enactment of a federal anti-lynching law; for the right to vote, serve on juries and enjoy complete civil liberty.

5. The right of Negro youth to equal opportunity in education and in the economic life of the community.

6. For complete equality for Negro women; for their right, along with all women, to equal pay for equal work; for their right to suitable environment for themselves and their children - an environment which demands adequate housing, good schools and recreational facilities; for their right to organise as consumers.

7. To oppose war and fascism, the attempted subjugation of Negro people in Ethiopia, the oppression of colonial nations throughout the world, for the independence of Ethiopia."

Second National Negro Congress

The Second National Negro Congress was held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on October 15, 16 and 17, 1937. The Congress represented more than 500,000 members organized in trade unions, churches, civic, political and fraternal groups.

This Congress was addressed by such prominent Communists or near-Communists as:

James W. Ford
Clarence Hathaway
Dr. Harry F. Ward
Louise Thompson
William L. Patterson

The following is a list of discussions entered into at this Congress in Philadelphia:

"1. The right of Negroes to jobs at decent wages and the right to join on an equal basis all trade unions; the right to equal wages and equal labor conditions with other workers; the organization of Negro workers with their fellow white workers into democratically controlled trade unions.

2. Relief and security for every needy Negro family; and genuine social and unemployment insurance without discrimination.

3. Aid to the Negro farm population, to ease the burden of debts and taxation; the right of farmers, tenants and sharecroppers to organize and bargain collectively.

4. A fight against lynching, mob violence and police brutality; for the right to vote, serve on juries and enjoy complete civil liberty; and for enactment of a federal anti-lynching law.

5. The question of the Scottsboro Boys as a special demand, by bringing forward its full social and political significance.

6. The right of Negro youth to equal opportunity in education and in the economic life of the community.

7. For complete equality for Negro women; for their right, along with all women, to equal

"pay for equal work; for their right to a suitable environment for themselves and their children—an environment which demands adequate housing, good schools, and recreational facilities; for their right to organize as consumers.

8. The struggle for economic, political, social and cultural equality of the Negro people; the necessity of joining with all the progressive forces in the land to defeat in a common front the forces of fascism and war breeding."

The Daily Worker reporting the speech of James W. Ford, who it will be remembered has been the Communist Party Candidate for Vice-President of the United States, stated:

"One of the most impressive ovations of the Convention was given to Ford, who was greeted with cheers and whistling as he arose to speak. The ovation soared to greater heights when he finished a masterful address with the stirring and historic words, 'John Brown's body marches on.'"

In reporting the speech of Clarence Hathaway at the Second National Negro Congress, the Daily Worker stated:

"In the session on war and Fascism, Clarence Hathaway won the day with an unanswerable appeal for the policy of collective security against war and a caustic trimming of Norman Thomas, who echoed the Fascist argument that collective security means war."

Third National Negro Congress

The Third National Negro Congress was held in Washington, D. C. in the Labor Department Auditorium on April 26, 27, and 28, 1940. This Congress was attended by 1,264 delegates.

It approved the following major resolutions:

1. To accept unanimously and enthusiastically the offer of John L. Lewis to establish a working agreement with Labor's Non-Partisan League.

2. To condemn this imperialist war and the policies of the Roosevelt Administration which lead toward war and to cooperate with the progressive and labor forces in working for peace.

3. To demand the immediate dissolution of the Dies Committee as a great threat to our fundamental rights.

4. To press for immediate passage of the Anti-Lynching Bill.

A split occurred between the Communist and Non-Communist forces within the Third National Negro Congress. A. Philip Randolph, who had been its President up to that time, refused to be a candidate for the presidency. On May 5, 1940, he issued a statement that the Congress was

> "deliberately packed with Communists and C.I.O. members who were either Communists or sympathisers with Communists."

He said that John P. Davis of Washington, D.C., the Secretary of the Congress, had said during an Executive Committee meeting in New York,

> "the Communist Party contributed $100 a month to the Congress."

Randolph declared that the Communist Party, instead of trying to refute charges of the Dies Committee that it was a transmission belt for Communist propaganda,

> "has brilliantly succeeded in giving the charge every appearance of truth and validity."

In his stead Max Yergan was the unopposed nominee for President of the Congress. He was a lecturer at the City College of New York and Treasurer of the International Committee on African Affairs. During his speech to the Congress he defended the Soviet Union and attacked President Roosevelt's foreign policy. It is interesting to note that James W. Ford was elected to the Executive Committee at this Congress.

John P. Davis, Secretary of the National Negro Congress, in outlining the peace program, followed the identical program of the Communist Party when he declared:

> "The position which our Congress should take on the question of war should be to oppose loans, credits, arms or any other aid direct or indirect to either side of the belligerents. We speak out firmly against aid to Nazi Germany but we speak with equal firmness against aid to imperialist Britain and imperialist France."

He said he believed that:

> "The American negro people will refuse to follow American imperialism in an attack upon the Soviet Union, will refuse to fall victim to anti-Soviet adventures, will refuse to join American or world imperialism in an attack against the Soviet people."

The officers elected at the Third National Negro Congress were:

Max Yergan	- President
John P. Davis	- Secretary
Henry Johnson, Assistant Director of the Packing House Workers Organizing Committee; Reverend Owen Whitfield, Sharecropper Leader and Vice President of the United Cannery, Agricultural and Packing Workers	- Vice Presidents

Mrs. Fay Allen)
Member of Los Angeles)
Board of Education)
Reverend W. H. Jernagins)
of Washington, D. C.) - Vice Presidents
Dr. Charles A. Lewis)
of Philadelphia, Pa.)
Dr. Robert A. Simons)
of Boston, Massachusetts)

Organization

The National Negro Congress is being organized under a regional, or district, and local council basis. A region or district is composed of several states, with a vice-president in charge. There are to be also state organizations. These are made up of city bodies or local councils within the state. The local council is the basic form of organization. The local sponsoring committees, which initiate the movement for the National Negro Congress, automatically become local councils. These councils are to be federated bodies of already existing organizations which affiliate to the council on the basis of a part or the whole of the program adopted at Chicago.

The National Headquarters is located at 717 Florida Avenue, Northwest, Washington, D. C.

As indicative of Communist activities in connection with the National Negro Congress, it was reported on December 23, 1940, in the Richmond News Leader, Richmond, Virginia, that a meeting of the Congress was held at the Sixth Mount Zion Church, 14 West Duval Street, Richmond, Virginia, and among the persons attending the meeting was one Donald Burke who was described as being an organizer for the Communist Party. It was further noted that Burke addressed this gathering, although the substance of his remarks was not reported.

The history of the Congress reflects that since its inception it has been under the leadership, for the most part, of two men: James W. Ford, Negro candidate of the Communist Party for Vice-President of the United States in 1934, 1936 and 1940, and John P. Davis, who although he has not been proven to be a member of the Communist Party has been definitely identified with that Party for the past five years.

Max Yergan, who became the President of the National Negro Congress, has been likewise identified with the Communist Party for the past five years. Scarcely an issue of the Daily Worker appears which fails to reflect the fame and accomplishments of Yergan, who is a Negro.

An article appearing on page 546-547 of the periodical, "The Communist", June, 1940, attributes the following statement to John P. Davis, a Leader of the Negro Congress:

> " I have visited the Soviet Union, I have talked with the Soviet people. I have witnessed their accomplishments and achievements. I know of their ideals and aspirations. I have witnessed the real and genuine rights of its freedom. I have witnessed their many nations and peoples, business and work in amity, collaboration and peace. I know of their deep friendship and aid to all oppressed peoples and on the basis of that experience and knowledge, which is shared by thousands of people, I firmly believe that the American Negro people will refuse to fall victim to anti-Soviet ventures. Will refuse to join American or World Imperialists in any attack against the Soviet people....."

As further indicative of the cooperation and infiltration of the Communist Party in connection with the National Negro Congress, it was noted in an article appearing in the October 30, 1940 issue of the Daily Worker that:

> "In a panel section of the Convention devoted to a discussion of political parties, Mother Ella Reeve Bloor Ohmbolt, Communist Candidate for Congress from Pennsylvania, Second District, spoke, advancing her Party's Program to aid the economic status of both negroes and whites and abolish the poll tax in the South."

<u>Accomplishments</u>

The principal work of the National Negro Congress, in addition to being a part of the United Front for the Communist Party, has been its campaign on behalf of the Scottsboro Boys, organizing negro workers in the Congress for Industrial Organizations and its campaigns on behalf of Anti-Lynching and Anti-Jim Crow legislation.

Radical Activities and Connections

The following statements have been issued by James W. Ford concerning the interest of the Communist Party in the National Negro Congress:

> "In all of these issues, the role of the National Negro Congress becomes of utmost importance for us. The Congress does not receive sufficient support from us. It is still weak organizationally. It needs to be built and it is up to the Communists to do their share in helping to build it."

> "We Communists were never doubtful about the significance or the outcome of the National Negro Congress. We were not deterred by the charges of 'Communist domination.' We were guided by what we knew of the desire of the Negro masses for united action."

> "The Communists have played a big part in this development as well as in the struggle for unity of the Negro people and the white masses. Our Party as a whole has helped to organize the Negro people and has gained wide support for their struggles. There has been a better understanding on the part of Negro Communists of how to work among the Negro masses, bringing to them Communist methods of struggle, and creating faith among them in the ability of the Communist Party to break down the barriers of prejudice....."

> "Today the tactic of the united front is bringing together large masses of Negroes....."

"The National Negro Congress (First Congress) recorded progress made by Communists and many delegates who supported our program, in the increasing work we are carrying on in the various organizations of the Negro people. Our modest successes are, however, just beginnings. We must now undertake to profit from our experiences, mistakes, shortcomings and successes, by showing what changes are necessary in our methods of work to build the National Negro Congress."

"It is necessary for the Party membership, particularly the Negro members, to see the need and possibility of strengthening our influence in the existing Negro organizations, by joining them where possible and becoming useful members. We can today unite the Negro people on the basis of their day-to-day needs, and for the preservation of democratic rights in such a way that the greatest number of people will be brought together in common struggle."

"We do not contrapose immediate issues to the revolutionary objectives; we are concerned daily, hourly, with the miserable life of the whole of the Negro people, as a part of the larger struggle for socialism."

"As a duly elected member of the Executive Committee (of the National Negro Congress) at the recent Congress at Philadelphia, in the name of the Communist Party, I pledge one thousand negro Communists to become members of the National Negro Congress during its drive. Our Communists must become the most active and enthusiastic workers in the National Negro Congress. We must see that the best of these comrades are utilized for the work in the National Negro Congress."

"We Communists must organize all our forces to render great assistance to the National Negro Congress in carrying out its program. If we develop systematic work we shall be able to fulfill very soon the task of developing a broad People's Front among the Negro people in the United States against fascism and war and for the liberation of the Negro people."

"Great united front organizations such as the National Negro Congress.....will be an important sector of the Democratic Front."

James W. Ford has characterized the National Negro Congress as:

"A broadening of the People's Front in America. The Congress is built upon the organizational idea of a federation of Negro organizations which, in effect, is the Negro People's Front."

[redacted] b7D,C

The National Negro Congress is affiliated with the American Council on Soviet Relations. This latter group is regarded as the

"most intellectual Red setup in America."

The National Negro Congress was one of the organizations sponsoring the American Peace Mobilization at Turner's Arena in Washington, D. C., on September 13, 1940. John P. Davis, Chairman of the National Negro Congress, was chairman of the meeting in Washington, D. C.

Dr. Max Yergan, now President of the National Negro Congress, has identified himself with the Communist Party for at least the last five years. An examination of the issues of the Daily Worker would indicate that it constitutes itself as being his advance press agent. There appeared in the Daily Worker for July 26, 1938, a statement to the following effect:

> "Dr. Max Yergan is not only an expert on African affairs but is also close to the throbbing pulse of the American Negro. As Executive Vice President of the National Negro Congress he participates in the shaping of policies that affect the lives of millions of Negroes."

William Z. Foster, writing in "The Communist" for November, 1936, under an article styled "The Crisis in the Socialist Party," declared, in part:

> "The Party's role was also one of significant importance in the organization of the great united front National Negro Congress in Chicago, February, 1936, of 1,817 delegates representing 1,200,000 members organized in trade unions, churches, youth groups and so forth. In all these united front movements the Communist Party is an official participant."

The Communist Party of California issued the following statement concerning Communist work in the National Negro Congress:

> "The Communist Party has given full support to the program of the National Negro Congress, both nationally and in California. Communist Party members in California worked very actively for the achievement of this United Negro People's Front."

A. Philip Randolph, President of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, resigned in April, 1940 as President of the National Negro Congress on the grounds that it is controlled by Communists. Speaking before the Fifteenth Anniversary

of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters in Harlem, New York on September 17, 1940, Randolph declared:

> ".....we reject the Communist program as a solution of the problems of the Negro, because it is the negation of democracy.
>
> We condemn all Communist-Front and transmission belt organizations as a peril to the constructive and sound program of the Negro people since they seek only to serve the cause of the Communist Party, which is only concerned about the success of the foreign policy of Soviet Russia."

[redacted]

b7D

The above information was furnished by [redacted] and has not been verified.

A newspaper clipping from the Daily Worker for April 24, 1941, substantiates this information and reflects that the combined forces of the National Negro Congress and the Maryland Youth Congress would carry on a drive to win jobs for 7,000 Negro Workers in the "Jim-Crow" Plant of the Glenn L. Martin Aircraft Company and the Bethlehem Steel Company.

>0 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Office of Origin: NEW YORK CITY

File No. 100-209

Report Made At	Date Made	Period	Report Made By
Sioux Falls, S. D.	1/9/42	9/18,22-24,26, 29/41;10/8,9, 13/41;11/4,22, 23/41	[redacted] b7C BMW

Title	Character of Case
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS	INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Synopsis of Facts: Instant organization not known to have ever existed in Rapid City, Hot Springs, Lead, Belle Fourche, Aberdeen, Pierre, and Deadwood, South Dakota, or in Dickinson, North Dakota.

- P -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] Sioux Falls, dated September 15, 1941. b7C

DETAILS: The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent [redacted] b7C

AT RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA

The following persons were interviewed, and each advised that he had no information concerning the above-entitled organization:

[redacted] Pennington County.
Pennington County.
of Pennington County.
of Pennington County.
b7C,D

Appr. and Forwarded:	Do Not Write in These Spaces		
JAN 20 1942	61-6728		

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2-Sioux Falls

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JAN 19 1942

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[redacted]

b7C,D

AT PIERRE, SOUTH DAKOTA

The following persons were interviewed, and each advised that he had no information concerning the above-entitled organization:

[redacted]

b7C,D

AT HOT SPRINGS, SOUTH DAKOTA

The following persons were interviewed, and each advised that he had no information concerning the above-entitled organization:

[redacted] of Fall River County. [redacted] Fall River County. [redacted]

b7C

AT DEADWOOD, SOUTH DAKOTA

The following persons were interviewed, and each advised that he had no information concerning the above-entitled organization:

[redacted] Lawrence County.
[redacted] Lawrence County.
[redacted] Lawrence County.

b7C

AT LEAD, SOUTH DAKOTA

The following persons were interviewed, and each advised that he had no information concerning the above-entitled organization:

[redacted]

b7C

AT BELLE FOURCHE, SOUTH DAKOTA

The following persons were interviewed, and each advised that he had no information concerning the above-entitled organization:

[redacted] Butte County.

b7C, D

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent [redacted]

AT ABERDEEN, SOUTH DAKOTA

The following individuals were contacted by the writer, and advised that the above-entitled organization does not presently exist and has never existed in Aberdeen, South Dakota:

[redacted]

b7c, D

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent [redacted]

AT DICKINSON, NORTH DAKOTA

The following individuals were contacted, and advised that the above-entitled organization does not presently exist and has never existed in Dickinson, North Dakota:

[redacted]

b7c

-PENDING-

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE SIOUX FALLS FIELD DIVISION

AT JAMESTOWN AND VALLEY CITY, NORTH DAKOTA, will conduct appropriate investigation to determine if instant organization exists or has existed in these cities.

-P E N D I N G-

ral Bureau of Investig

United States Department of Justice

New York, N. Y.

January 22, 1942

FLG:PAS

CONFIDENTIAL

declassified by SP-1 GSK/RH 4/25/79

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

RE: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

Dear Sir:

I am forwarding two copies of a report dated January 15, 1942, of [redacted] which relates to the National Negro Congress. b7D

Enclosed also are clippings from the January 14, 1942 issue of the Daily Worker; January 17, 1942 of the Pittsburgh Courier, and January 10, 1942 issue of the Amsterdam News Star, which are referred to [redacted] b7D

[redacted]

The indices of this office were checked but no previous record could be found concerning [redacted] b7C

Copies of [redacted] report are being retained in this office for use in connection with the investigation of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS. b7D

Very truly yours,

P. E. Foxworth

P. E. FOXWORTH,
Assistant Director

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58 APR 21 1961

Encls.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) 5.

61-6722

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
18 JAN 24 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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Must Halt Jim-Crow At Sea, NMU Declares

Daily Worker 1/4/42

Ferdinand Smith, Negro Maritime Leader, Reports to NMU Council

If in the past it was necessary to wipe out the discrimination against Negro, Filipino and Porto Rican seamen, it is doubly necessary to do so today, Ferdinand Smith, secretary of the National Maritime Union, [illegible] yesterday in a report on minorities to the National Council of the union.

[illegible] unity—all important in the fight against Hitlerism, Smith said. "Our program is a program of victory."

Towards this end, we shall continue to fight for the right of the Negro people to fully participate in the war effort. We shall continue to fight for the right of the Negro people to lend their labor, technical, manual and other skills to the defense of our country.

"It is in this light that we must view the action of the National Defense, supported by the Federal Government, in forcing the United States Lines to reverse its anti-union and anti-democratic policy of refusing to hire [illegible]

Must Halt Jim-Crow At Sea, NMU Declares

Ferdinand Smith, Negro Maritime Leader, Reports to NMU Council

[illegible] people [illegible] organization [illegible] nation [illegible] in [illegible] Adjustment [illegible]

"The National Maritime Union has requested all philippinos to make known their position on discrimination against Negroes, Filipinos and [illegible]. The union has already [illegible] that if any union [illegible] war materials and hold up [illegible] trained [illegible] seamen [illegible] the war effort will fall on [illegible] the union [illegible] Arthur Kelly [illegible] is from [illegible] seamen [illegible] packed in [illegible] whole [illegible] who can [illegible] by centuries of slavery [illegible] the extreme tarnish of civilization [illegible] can therefore understand [illegible] in the southern states [illegible] sheer necessity [illegible] to accept [illegible] and perhaps [illegible] called Negroes. [illegible] the kind of [illegible] make [illegible]

Amsterdam News

Saturday, January 10, 1942

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Origin: NEW YORK CITY

File No. 100-209

Made at:	Date made:	Period:	Report made by:
Sioux Falls, S. D.	1/30/42	1/10,27, 28/42	[redacted] b7c JMB
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS			INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Synopsis of Facts: Instant organization not known to exist at Jamestown or Valley City, North Dakota.

- RUC -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] Sioux Falls, South Dakota, dated 1/9/42. b7c

DETAILS: AT SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA

The following persons in Jamestown and Valley City, North Dakota, were contacted and advised they had no information that this organization had ever existed in their communities:

[redacted] Barnes County, Valley City, North Dakota.

[redacted] Valley City, North Dakota. b7c

[redacted] Valley City, North Dakota.

[redacted] Jamestown, North Dakota.

[redacted] Jamestown, North Dakota.

[redacted] Jamestown, North Dakota.

[redacted] Stutsman County, Jamestown, North Dakota.

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2 Sioux Falls

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Inasmuch as previous investigation relative to the existence of this organization has been made and reported from all of the key cities in this Field Division, this case is being referred upon completion to the office of origin.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK CITY

Atla. FILE NO. 100-349 EBG

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
ATLANTA, GEORGIA	1-30-42	1-16,17,19-42	[redacted] b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
C NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS	INTERNAL SECURITY — C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Investigation in Atlanta fails to indicate that the National Negro Congress is now operating in Georgia.

- RUC -

REFERENCE: Bureau teletype to all Special Agents in Charge dated 9-11-41.

DETAILS: This investigation is predicated upon Bureau teletype to all Special Agents in Charge dated September 11, 1941 entitled Investigation of Government Employees; Internal Security-- Hatch Act. This teletype requested that the membership lists of the National Negro Congress be obtained and the identity of any Government employees appearing thereon ascertained.

On September 13, 1941 the Bureau was advised by letter that a review of Atlanta file entitled NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS; INTERNAL SECURITY--C, disclosed that the National Negro Congress was not in existence in Atlanta as of Arpil 1, 1941. The following additional investigation was conducted to determine whether the National Negro Congress had established a local organization since that date.

b7c,D

[redacted] advised that he had not heard of subject organization. [redacted] also searched the files which he maintains on various organizations in Atlanta and he was unable to find any information whatsoever on the subject organization.

b7c,D

[redacted] advised that he had no information in his files concerning the subject organization and that he personally had not heard

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [illegible] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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of a National Negro Congress.

[redacted] advised that he is quite positive that the National Negro Congress has no local chapter in Atlanta. [redacted] advised that two or three years ago there were two or three negro individuals interested in the National Negro Congress but that they had dropped their affiliation with that organization as he recalled because they had discovered that it was Communistically inclined. [redacted] was unable to recall the names of the individuals who had been connected with the National Negro Congress. [redacted] advised that if the subject organization did exist in Atlanta he had no knowledge of it. [redacted] b7C,D

[redacted] advised that subject organization does not exist in Atlanta. [redacted] stated that he was quite certain that if the National Negro Congress had a local chapter he had no knowledge about it. b7C

[redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau and [redacted] advised that subject organization is not in existence in Georgia. b7D

[redacted] and [redacted] and who are cooperating with the Atlanta Field Office in National Defense matters advised that they have not heard of subject organization. b7D

The report of Special Agent [redacted] Atlanta, Georgia dated April 21-1941 in the instant case reflects that the National Negro Congress was not operating in Georgia as of April 1, 1941. b7C

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK CITY

FILE NO. 100-662

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
MIAMI, FLORIDA	2/2/42	1/9/42	[redacted] b7C CD:MLTG

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS	INTERNAL SECURITY - R

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Instant organization is inactive in larger cities of Florida at the present time.

- RUC -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] Miami, Florida, March 5, 1941. b7C

DETAILS:

[redacted] b7D

By letter dated October 15, 1941, [redacted] Jacksonville, Florida informed that instant organization had never been heard of in that city. b7D

By letter dated October 30, 1941, [redacted] Orlando, Florida informed that investigation by his office had disclosed no trace of instant organization. b7D

In letter dated October 29, 1941, [redacted] at Tampa, Florida advised that he was unable to find any activity of instant organization. b7D

[redacted], Pensacola, Florida, in letter dated December 29, 1941, informed that a careful check [redacted] had failed to reflect any trace of such an organization. b7D

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: R. E. [illegible] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 7—2034

ever being active in Pensacola, Florida.

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MAY 22 1942

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New York, New York

FLO:MFB
100-3633

February 6, 1942

CONFIDENTIAL

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS;
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

I am forwarding herewith two copies of a report dated February 2, 1942 of [redacted]

Information appearing in this report is being brought to the attention of G2 and ONI at the regular weekly conference being held February 6, 1942.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
A[illegible] ROUTING
SLIP (C) OF

Enclosures

Very truly yours,

P. E. FOXWORTH
Assistant Director

CC: New York File #61-730

9 FEB 21 1942

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FEB 16 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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FOR UNITY AND VICTORY

Our country is at war. Hundreds of Americans have been murdered in the treacherous attacks of Japan against the sovereignty of America and the liberties of the American people. World-wide forces of fascism and Hitlerism, acting with the single evil purpose of destroying democracy, have now spread the terror of war to the homes of Americans, Negro and white. Our liberties, our homes, our lives are threatened by the stark menace of fascism and Hitlerism. **The fate of America is the fate of the Negro people.**

In the face of this grave danger, the people of America—in all walks of life—Negro and white are united. Our country's cause is just. We shall let nothing divide us in our will to destroy forever this hideous threat to American democracy. With deepest emotion the National Negro Congress joins with all other loyal Americans in renewing its pledge of fullest support to the total program of our country for the defeat and destruction of fascism and Hitlerism.

We will fulfill this pledge with our lives and our blood. We urge our people—the Negro people—to continue their rich tradition of loyalty to America by giving their strongest effort to achieve a speedy victory over fascism and Hitlerism. We urge young Negro manhood to show their courage by enlisting by the tens of thousands in our armed forces. We urge Negro farmers and workers to place themselves at the disposal of their country for the task for rapidly increasing the production of goods needed to win the war. We urge every Negro man, woman and child to find some task—in civilian defense, in defense production, in the armed forces, in some field of our war preparation in which he can do his part to defend America. **America is our country. We shall defend it.**

We have full confidence that our government, that all loyal white Amer-

MAY 22 1942

U-6)20-217
P. 11 2

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
New York, New York

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Boyd
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coles
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Lohman
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Neare
Miss Gandy
Files

FLG:EG
100-3633

March 12, 1942

CONFIDENTIAL

declassified by SP-1 65R/RH 4/25/79

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

RE: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

Attached hereto are two copies of a report dated March 6, 1942 of [redacted] which relate to the National Negro Congress. Enclosed also is a circular put out by this organization entitled "What is the Attitude of the Negro in the Present War" which the informant furnished with his report. b7D

Copies [redacted] are being placed in the file for use in connection with the investigation of this organization. b7D

Very truly yours,

P. E. Foxworth

P. E. FOXWORTH
Assistant Director

Encs.
CC - 65-8295

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY POUCH DATED 65-000055, 65-74589

MAR 27 '42

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11 APR 24 1961

What is the ATTITUDE of the NEGRO in the present war?

what about?

Red Cross Segregation of Negro Blood?

Jim-Crow in the Armed Forces?

Discrimination in Defense Industries?

These and other vital questions will be answered at a

FORUM

(and Council Meeting)

America has been at war for nearly three months! Sufficient time has elapsed and sufficient events have occurred for us again, to "take stock"... examine the situation... and see where the Negro people stand in relation to the war.....

Let us come together, then, and discuss

'THE NEGRO AND THE WAR'

March 2, 1942
8:00 p.m.

New York Public Library
9 West 124 St.
New York City, NY

GOOD SPEAKERS! FULL DISCUSSION BY ALL!

UOFWA #16

NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
217 WEST 125th ST. N. Y. C.
UNiversity 4-9335

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Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Lad
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Leavy
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Coleman
Mr. Gurnea Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

January 5, 1942

PERSONAL ~~AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir: RE: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS

Reference is made to Bureau teletype dated December 24, 1941 in which instructions were set forth relative to the placing of technical surveillances.

This office deems it expedient that a technical surveillance be conducted to cover the office of the National Negro Congress, 3856 South South Park, telephone Atlantic 6252, Chicago, Illinois. Investigation of this organization for a considerable period of time has revealed that the National Negro Congress operates in close collaboration with the Communist Party, and its various front organizations. It participates in and supports the activities of such organizations as the International Labor Defense, the International Workers Order, the American Youth Congress and the Communist Party. Its leaders include such prominent reported Communists as WILLIAM L. PATTERSON, National Vice President of the International Labor Defense, and [redacted] These and other leaders of the National Negro Congress are in constant communication with leaders of the Communist Party and other front organizations, [redacted]

b7C

b7E

Especially since the invasion of Russia by the German Army, the National Negro Congress has played a prominent part in calling attention to alleged discrimination against the negroes in the armed forces of the United States. It has also participated in such Communist inspired programs as soliciting

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MAR 21 1942

RECORDED & INDEXED

signatures to petitions calling for the release of EARL BROWDER and has been instrumental in publicizing public gatherings sponsored by the Communist Party.

[redacted]

b7c

In view of the above mentioned facts it is strongly urged that such a surveillance be inaugurated.

Very truly yours,

A. H. Johnson

A. H. JOHNSON,

Special Agent in Charge

JCB:JMS

100-4838

AIR MAIL - SPECIAL DELIVERY

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

March 11, 1942

EGF:MLC

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. D. M. LADD

Re: National Negro Congress,
Chicago, Illinois

Call: 5:10 p.m.
Dictated: 10:15 a.m., 3-14-42

SAC Johnson was notified of the Attorney General's approval for a technical surveillance on the captioned organization.

Respectfully,

E. G. Fitch

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Boone
Mr. Garson
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Harbo
Tele. Room
Tour Room
Mr. Nease
Mr. Tracy
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

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MAY 26 1942

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Cancelled

MAY 22 1942

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

March 20, 1942

DEL:mm
Received: 3:05 PM
Transcribed: 3:15 PM

MEMORANDUM FOR Mr. Ladd

RE: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS

Mr. Hugo Carusi, Executive Assistant to the Attorney General, telephonically inquired of me if it would be possible for me to have sent to his office immediately one copy of our report on the National Negro Congress, in connection with a representative of the Civil Service Commission who is presently in his office in connection with this matter. I told him I would see if we had a copy available and let him know at once.

I instructed Mr. Tamm, who advised me that this report had been finished, to take a copy of it to Mr. Carusi's office immediately.

Respectfully,

D. M. Ladd

RECORDED 61-6721-223

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MAR 28 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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MAY 22 1942

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Cancelled

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK, N. Y. FILE NO. 100-380

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
CINCINNATI, OHIO	4-24-42	11/13&26&12/16&20&24&31/41 1/1&16&20/42 2/7/42 &3/7&28 4/13/42	[redacted] b7C SAC
TITLE NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: The officers of the National Negro Congress in Cincinnati, Ohio are ELMER JAMISON, Chairman; ELIZABETH CROWDER, Secretary, and MARJORIE DOWERS (white), Financial Secretary. Members of Executive Board and individuals attending meetings from 11-6-41 to 4-10-42 are set out. Approximately fifty individuals have attended meetings during this period of time. [redacted] report no affirmative action by subject organization. Meetings limited to discussions of Negro discrimination, the need of raising money to pay for their charter, and in attempting to locate a meeting place for future meetings. [redacted] expelled from organization for misconduct. b7D

P. b7E,D

REFERENCE:- Report of Special Agent [redacted], Cincinnati, Ohio, dated Nov. 21, 1941. b7C

DETAILS:- AT CINCINNATI, OHIO.

There is hereinafter set out the organizational setup and membership of the National Negro Congress, as reported by [redacted] b7D

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APR 27 1942

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 7—3034

NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS

[redacted]

Strength: Approximately fifty individuals have attended one or more meetings since November 6, 1941. b7D

Meetings: Each Friday evening at irregular places. Meetings have been held at 701 West Ninth Street
641 West Court Street
342 West Fifth Street
1062 Central Avenue, all Cincinnati.

Officers: ELMER JAMISON, Chairman
ELIZABETH CROWDER and SAM BROWN have acted as Chairman
ETHEL LEATHERWOOD, Secretary
MARJORIE DOWERS, Financial Secretary

Executive Committee: ELMER JAMISON
THOMAS DOWERS
ETHEL LEATHERWOOD
MARJORIE DOWERS
CLARENCE FLANDERS
ALICE MEADE

Members:

b7D

[redacted]

[redacted]

b7D

There have been a limited number of individuals who have attended one or two meetings whose identities have been unknown [redacted] making an estimated fifty individuals who have attended meetings since November 6, 1941.

[redacted]

b7D

b7D

50 (2-7-79)

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NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS

[redacted] b7D

[redacted] b7D

[redacted] that no meetings had been held of the National Negro Congress during the month of January up to this meeting due to the fact that the national office of the National Negro Congress had instructed them to hold no other meeting under that name until they had secured a charter. MARJORIE DOWERS announced that they now have this charter and that part of the funds for the charter had been put up by MARJORIE and TOM DOWERS.

b7D

[redacted] however, that he believed, [redacted] that this money had actually been advanced by the Communist Party.

[redacted] b7D

[redacted]

b7D

[redacted]

b7D

[redacted]

On November 11, 1941 [redacted] turned over the National Negro Congress News dated October 24, 1941, Release #32. This bulletin is being transmitted to the office of origin with this report.

b7D

In the various contacts with [redacted] they advised that the membership of the National Negro Congress

b7D

b7D

and the Workers Alliance were practically synonymous. [redacted] advised that the recent meetings of the National Negro Congress would be well attended (15 to 20) [redacted] observed that the organization is completely controlled and dominated by THOMAS DOWERS and MARJORIE DOWERS, both white. The organization, to date, has distributed no literature and has taken no affirmative action of any kind.

b7D

[redacted] advised that most of the discussion in recent meetings has been regarding the necessity of raising the remainder of $25. for the charter and in discussing the securing of a meeting place for the organization. [redacted] they cannot secure a regular meeting place as no one having a hall or a meeting room will rent it to them. [redacted]

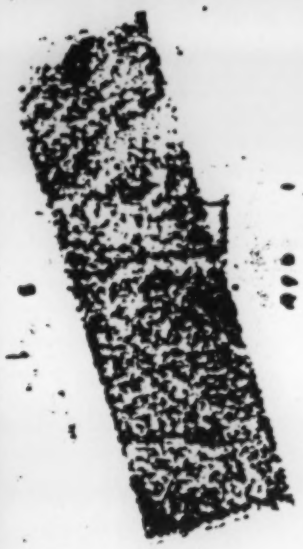
ENCLOSURE TO NEW YORK: Publication entitled "National Negro Congress News", Release #32, dated October 24, 1941.

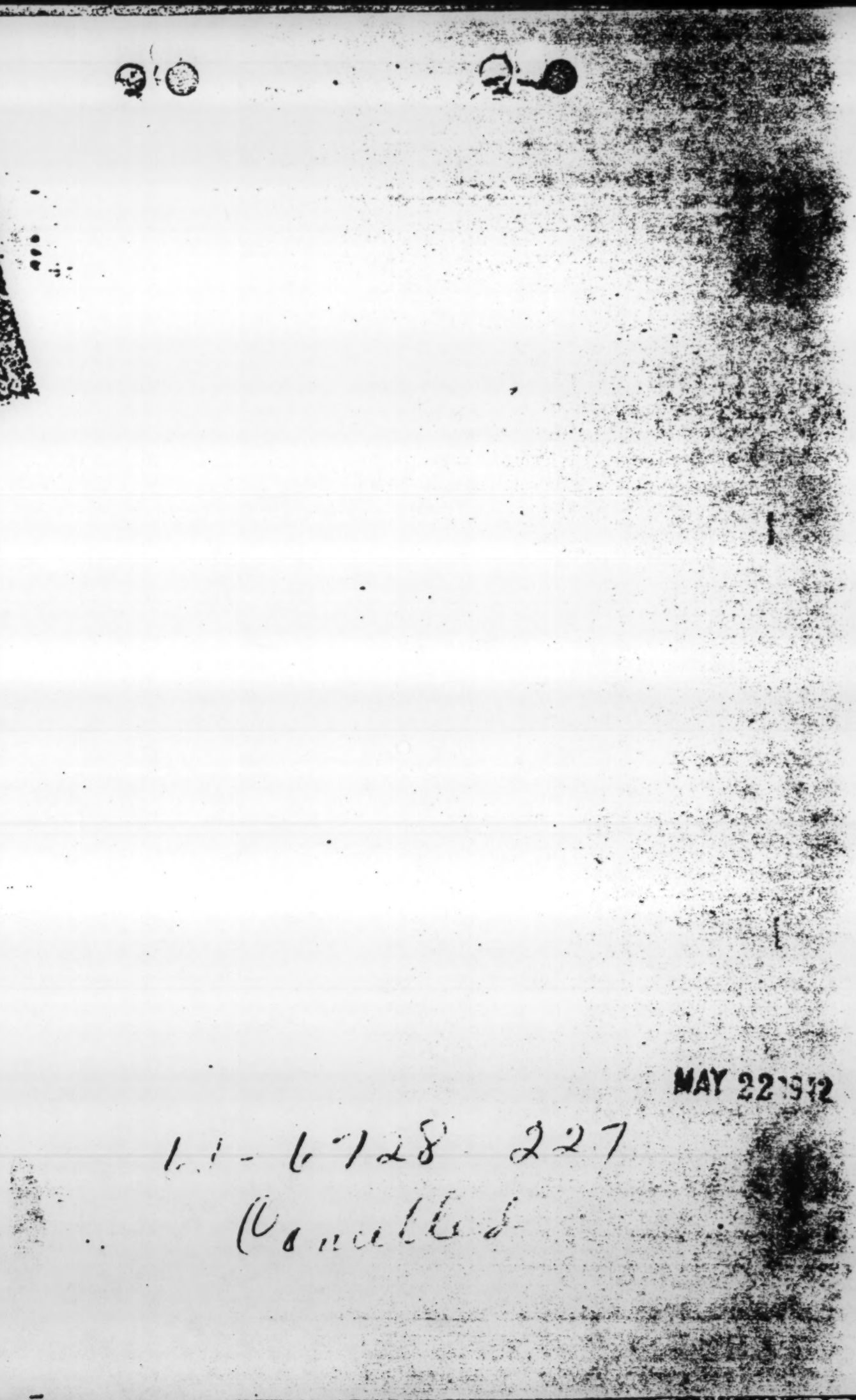
PENDING

NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS

UNDEVELOPED LEADS:-

CINCINNATI FIELD DIVISION at Cincinnati, Ohio. Will maintain contact with [redacted] to report the current activities of subject organization. b7D





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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK CITY

FILE NO. 100-189 FC

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
BUFFALO, NEW YORK	5/8/42	3/13; 4/6,8/42	[redacted] b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS	INTERNAL SECURITY - R.

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Only chapter of subject organization in Buffalo Field Division territory was in Buffalo, N. Y. and [redacted] advise this chapter no longer active. HENRY WRIGHT was last active member, and [redacted] b7D,C

- RUC -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated 5/14/41 at Buffalo, New York.

DETAILS: AT BUFFALO, NEW YORK

b7c,D

[redacted] was interviewed and advised that the National Negro Congress Chapter, which had been started in Buffalo, New York, was no longer in existence. [redacted] stated that for some time the Buffalo Chapter had been fairly active, but that in the past year he had heard no mention of it. He further stated that the Communist activity among the Negroes in Buffalo appeared to have lessened somewhat, and that although at the request of the writer he had contacted several people concerning the National Negro Congress, he had been unable to learn anything about its activities.

[redacted] advised that the last person to have been very active in the organization was HENRY WRIGHT, [redacted] who has not been seen around Buffalo in

b7c

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the past few months. [redacted] stated that WRIGHT was the only person who had attempted to keep alive the organization in the past eighteen months. b7D

[redacted] was contacted, and advised that the National Negro Congress no longer existed in Buffalo. [redacted] had been active in the organization for a short while, but that this activity had ceased and communist agitation among the Negroes in Buffalo had consisted merely of attempting to get an increased membership in the Young Communist League and the Communist Party. [redacted] advised that [redacted] had not been active in Communist circles in Buffalo during the past six or eight months. b7C,D

[redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, stated that he had contacted various Negro Communists in Buffalo, and that he had been informed that the National Negro Congress no longer existed. [redacted] b7C,D

b7D,C

AT ROCHESTER, NEW YORK

[redacted] advised that he had contacted several Negro Communists in Rochester, and had been informed that there had never been a Chapter of the National Negro Congress in Rochester. [redacted] b7D

b7D

AT ELMIRA, NEW YORK

In an insert for the file, submitted by Special Agent [redacted] dated at Buffalo, New York, November 17, 1941, it is reported that [redacted] advised that Communist activities among the Negro population in Elmira, N. Y., had spurted recently due to the finding of a "Cause Celebre" by BERNARD BURTON, [redacted] in Elmira. PHILLIPA STOWE, of 611 Dickinson Street, Elmira, a Negro, took a Civil Service examination for a position as welfare investigator b7C

b7D

b7C

the past few months. [redacted] stated that WRIGHT was the only person who had attempted to keep alive the organization in the past eighteen months. b7D

[redacted] was contacted, and advised that the National Negro Congress no longer existed in Buffalo. [redacted] had been active in the organization for a short while, but that this activity had ceased and communist agitation among the Negroes in Buffalo had consisted merely of attempting to get an increased membership in the Young Communist League and the Communist Party. [redacted] advised that [redacted] had not been active in Communist circles in Buffalo during the past six or eight months. b7C,D

[redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, stated that he had contacted various Negro Communists in Buffalo, and that he had been informed that the National Negro Congress no longer existed. [redacted] b7C,D

b7D,C

AT ROCHESTER, NEW YORK

[redacted] advised that he had contacted several Negro Communists in Rochester, and had been informed that there had never been a Chapter of the National Negro Congress in Rochester. [redacted] b7D

b7D

AT ELMIRA, NEW YORK

In an insert for the file, submitted by Special Agent [redacted] dated at Buffalo, New York, November 17, 1941, it is reported that [redacted] advised that Communist activities among the Negro population in Elmira, N. Y., had spurted recently due to the finding of a "Cause Celebre" by BERNARD BURTON, [redacted] in Elmira. PHILLIPA STOWE, of 611 Dickinson Street, Elmira, a Negro, took a Civil Service examination for a position as welfare investigator b7C b7D b7C

in the office of the Veterans' Relief Bureau, and according to the report she passed this examination, ranking tenth on the eligible list. As vacancies were filled from the list, PHILLIPA STOWE eventually moved to the lead position and was in line for the next appointment; at this time the list was abandoned and appointments were made without regard to the examination.

BURTON took up the case for STOWE and distributed pamphlets decrying the discrimination shown in her case. At BURTON'S expense, or at the expense of the Communist Party, PHILLIPA STOWE and her brother GEORGE STOWE were taken to an American People's Mobilization meeting in New York City because of this incident.

However, when questioned as to the existence of a Chapter of the National Negro Congress in Elmira, [redacted] stated that no such organization existed, although the Party was active among the Negroes in that section. b7D

Inasmuch as investigation fails to reveal any activity of subject organization in the Buffalo Field Division territory, no further investigation is being conducted.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK FILE NO. 100-213

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
NORFOLK, VIRGINIA	5/9/42	3/23/42	[redacted] b7c ALO:AED

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS	INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: File in this case reviewed; leads set out.

- P -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] b7c dated May 14, 1941, at Richmond, Virginia.

DETAILS: AT NORFOLK, VIRGINIA

The file in this case was reviewed by the writer and it is noted that the report of Special Agent [redacted] b7c dated February 25, 1941, at Los Angeles, California, reflects the following information pertinent to the Norfolk Field Division:

National Executive Board

The National Executive Board is composed of persons coming from 18 states and 22 cities in those states. There are nine women and 40 men on this board. They are the following:

Page 34 - CROCKER, W. H., Suffolk, Virginia
JACKSON, JAMES, Richmond, Virginia
JOHNSON, JAMES R., Roanoke, Virginia

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100-213

" National Executive Board

Page 33 - VIRGINIA: W. H. CROCKER, Suffolk; JAMES JACKSON, Richmond; and JAMES R. JOHNSON, from Roanoke.

- ——— -

Page 32 - 'State representation was:
Virginia 30 "

b7C

A review of the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated January 9, 1941, at Omaha, Nebraska, reflects on Pages 4 and 5 that one of the local councils of the National Negro Congress is located at Richmond, Virginia and that councils in process of formation are located at Roanoke, Virginia and Norfolk, Virginia.

-P E N D I N G-

100-213

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE NORFOLK FIELD DIVISION

At Suffolk, Virginia, will conduct investigation of [redacted] to ascertain if he is connected with any un-American or subversive activities, and to determine if he has any possible connection with the Communist Party activities in the Suffolk area.

b7c

At Norfolk, Virginia, will contact [redacted] Law Building, regarding existence and activities of instant organization in the Norfolk area.

Will contact [redacted] to determine the activities, and, if possible, the complete local membership of this organization.

-PENDING-

WKH:JEA

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May 11, 1942

PERSONAL ~~AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

Special Agent in Charge
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith photostatic copies of reports of [redacted] at Youngstown, Ohio, dated as follows:

[redacted]

67D

[redacted] The substance of this material should not be disclosed to any individual or organization outside of the Bureau.

You are instructed to give the contents of these reports consideration and to conduct the appropriate investigation in those instances where you feel the reported material or the reported material along with information already available to your office warrants the same.

Very truly yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK CITY

FILE NO. 100-104[redacted]

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
DENVER, COLORADO	5-15-42	4-27;5-1,1942	[redacted]

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS	INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Inquiries in the Denver Field Division do not disclose the existence of the National Negro Congress.

- R U C -

REFERENCE: Bureau teletype dated 12-17-40.

DETAILS: AT DENVER, COLORADO:

In an effort to determine whether a council of the National Negro Congress existed in the Denver Field Division, contact was had with [redacted] He stated that a year or two ago there was some agitation to form a Denver Council of the National Negro Congress, but that the effort failed and no such organization was ever established. He recalls that some correspondence was directed to the colored YMCA at 2800 Glenarm Street in Denver, Colorado, but when this was brought to the attention of the Secretary there, such of the colored people as were interested in this activity were ordered to carry on elsewhere, which they did for a short while in the homes of various negroes interested. [redacted] stated that no leadership developed and for the past year nothing has happened looking either to the carrying on of the activities of the original group or the promotion of another organization.

b7D

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In the Fall of 1941 it appears that a flyer was passed out at a Workers Alliance meeting entitled, "Negroes Wake Up", which purported to have been put out by the organizing committee, Denver Council, National Negro Congress, 2800 Welton Street, Denver, Colorado. Agent checked the latter address and found it to be a florist shop conducted by a colored woman, VALERIE RUTHERFORD. Agent talked this over with the [redacted] and he stated that he knows the RUTHERFORD's very well. He said that Mrs. RUTHERFORD conducts the florist shop while her husband works as a carrier for the post office, and that neither one takes part in propaganda organizations among the colored people, but on the contrary are strongly against such doings. [redacted] impression was that the address 2800 Welton was a misprint and should have read 2800 Glenarm.

[redacted] was questioned as to whether the National Negro Congress had been successful in establishing a council in any other town in this division, and he stated that outside of Denver there is no significant negro organization of any kind.

In case an attempt is again made to organize such an organization in this division, the Bureau will be promptly advised.

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New York, New York

CONFIDENTIAL

[redacted]

May 18, 1942

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

RE: COMMUNIST PARTY NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith are copies of the report of [redacted] which pertains to the National Negro Congress [redacted]

A copy of this report is being placed in the investigative file in the New York Office, pertaining to this matter.

b7D

Enclosed herewith is a form of literature, as obtained by [redacted] and is as follows:

1 Handbill, regarding the announcement of a mass meeting, May 6, 1942, New York City; pertaining to the subject "Negroes in the Navy"

1 Pamphlet entitled "Inside Italy"

1 Pamphlet entitled "Mr. President, Free Earl Browder"

1 Pamphlet entitled "The CIO and the Negro Worker"

Very truly yours,

P. E. FOXWORTH
Assistant Director

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cc: 100-3633
62-6806

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MAY 21 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

EX-18

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NEGROES IN THE NAVY

On April 7 Sec'y of Navy Knox released an order to enlist Negroes for preliminary training and for combat war service in the Navy.

How does this promote the nation's efforts to Victory? Will it help to win the War? How does it affect the Negro people's liberation?

HEAR THESE QUESTIONS DISCUSSED . . .

Hear what friendly peoples (the Chinese people and the people of India), now actively engaged in the death struggle against the Axis Powers have to say . . .Hear what Negro leaders think . . .

MASS MEETING

ON

THE NEGRO IN THE NAVY

WEDNESDAY MAY 6, 1942 --- 8 P.M.

CONGRESS CASINO

168 WEST 132nd STREET, NEW YORK CITY

SPEAKERS

STEVEN QUONG
Editor China Daily News

KUMA GOSHAL
Authority on Affairs of the Indian People

NAOMI KORNACKER
Sec'y Nat'l Negro Congress

FRIEDA NEUGEBAUR
Council on African Affairs

FERDINAND SMITH
Sec'y, Nat'l Maritime Union

THOMAS PAGE
Spanish War Veteran

MORAN WESTON
International Workers Order

KENNETH SPENCER . . . . Baritone

Auspices: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS 143 WEST 125th ST., Room 6

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